SANDWELL
CHRONICLE

Thursday, August 7, 2014 | Read by more than 69,000 people | Price when sold 50p

THROWN OUT

Gang which terrorised estate evicted

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NEW START

It all Adeys up for shop's museum move

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DRIVER IN POLICE CHASE LOCKED UP

A FATHER-OF-TWO who drove a stolen van at speeds of up to 60mph in Tipton while trying to evade police has been sentenced to 18 months in a young offenders' institution.

Liam Hadlington, aged 20, of no fixed address, was also banned from driving for three years when he appeared before Wolverhampton Crown Court.

By Mark Andrews

Hadlington had admitted aggravated vehicle taking and driving while disqualified at an earlier hearing. He was also told he would have to take an extended driving test before he would be allowed to drive again.

Mr Mark Rees, prosecuting, said on April 18, at around 8.15pm, Hadlington was spotted by police driving a stolen Vauxhall van through Princes End.

The officers turned on their blue lights, and Hadlington accelerated away.

Standing

Mr Rees said Hadlington drove through March Road at speeds of 50 to 60mph.

"That was made more dangerous because it is a residential area, with terraced houses and cars parked in the street and the like," he said on Tuesday.

"There were people standing in the street, there is a pub on the corner and there are shops nearby. The defendant posed a significant risk to any person on foot."

A Ford Focus was forced to brake sharply to avoid a collision, added Mr Rees.

"The van mounted the pavement outside a block of flats, and the driver showed a clear determination that he wasn't going to slow down," he said.

"The van was rocking from side to side, and the driver looked as if he was struggling to control the steering."

The van was driven across a grass verge, and police followed him into Shakespeare Road, where he was found driving in the opposite direction to the police car.

"The police went in front in an attempt to stop it, and the driver showed no intention of stopping," Mr Rees said.

He said officers lost the van in Kingsbury Road, but found it abandoned in Gospel Oak Road. Hadlington was arrested on April 24.

Mr Rees said Hadlington received a 12-month community order in March for burglary. In 2012, he was banned from driving for two years and sentenced to 16 months in a young offenders' institution for aggravated vehicle taking.

Mr Jas Mann, defending, said nobody was injured during the pursuit.

He said Hadlington had two young children, and realised he would be in serious trouble if he did not change his ways. He said he had been working in a factory earning £300 a week.

"He is a young man with a work ethic," said Mr Mann.

"His downfall is a fascination with cars.

Big fire destroys clothing at factory

FLAMES ripped through a Tividale factory destroying thousands of items of clothing and bringing an industrial estate to a standstill.

Plumes of smoke rose to more than 50ft as more than 35 firefighters tackled the blaze at the Unit 54B premises off Hainge Road.

Workers watched from behind cordons and a nearby firm was evacuated as a precaution.

A manager from a neighbouring business dialled 999 to alert crews after thick black smoke set off fire alarms in their own premises.

The severity of the blaze forced West Midlands Fire Service to bring in extra crews to join teams from Dudley and Oldbury were initially called at around 11am on Tuesday.

The fire destroyed household goods and clothing.

Fire crews remained for six hours and brought in machinery to help move piles of clothes to ensure flames were doused underneath.

Command support officer Lee Baker said: "It was dangerous conditions."

Smith cardboard technology is next door and transport manager Warren Beard called 999 after the the smoke set off its smoke alarms.

House drug farm raided

DOZENS of cannabis plants were found by police in a raid at a house in Quinton.

Officers swooped on a property in Quinton Road and found a cannabis farm in three upstairs bedrooms.

Around 25 large cannabis plants were discovered during the raid at 7.15am on Monday. Officers from West Midlands Police said the three rooms had been converted for the purpose of cultivating the class B drug.

Force spokesman Pete Edney said: "Our investigations are continuing."

Vigil commemorates start of Great war

Members of the Oldbury Royal Airforce Cadets take part in the 12-hour silent vigil in Oldbury Civic Centre

FOR 12 hours a vigil was held at Oldbury Civic Square as part of Sandwell's commemorations of the beginning of the First World War a 100 years ago.

Organisations took turns on Monday to stand for an hour each at the cenotaph and display their standards.

These included Oldbury Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps, West Bromwich Royal Air Force and Navy Associations, Sandwell Scouts, Royal British Legions from Blackheath, Oldbury, Tipton and Smethwick, the 225 and 237 Reservists and the Sikh 1914-18 Association.

There was a parade from Low Town car park, along Birmingham Street and Halesowen Street to the Civic Square for a service, two-minute silence and poetry reading by children, with Sandwell chaplain Sandra Woodall leading the service.

There was also a marquee with information about the conflict also on site.

Passed

Sandwell Council's deputy leader Councillor Mahboob Hussain said: "It is very important we remember the sacrifices made by a generation 100 years ago, including the many people from the borough who gave their lives or lost loved ones.

"I am pleased local schoolchildren are getting fully involved so the importance of the First World War is passed on to future generations."

On Friday night the Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Derek Rowley, attended a special civic ceremony at Dudley's Top Church on High Street.

And in Birmingham, 5,000 tiny ice sculptures depicting human figures were left to melt on the steps of Chamberlain Square as part of the Mini Monument exhibition.

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Housing scheme to create 120 jobs

SOME 120 jobs will be created by the developer behind a £9.8 million housing estate in West Bromwich.

Barratt Homes Mercia will start work on the 61-home development in Devereux Road on land that belonged to the Kenrick & Jefferson print works.

Bosses said they plan to create the jobs, which will include construction and decorating positions.

The Salters Park development, which is expected to be completed in 18 months, will provide a mixture of one to four bedroomed homes.

As part of the planning consent, Barratt Homes Mercia will contribute £116,000 towards improvements to nearby open space and maintenance of the surrounding area, which includes Kenrick Park.

Mercia land manager Marianne Horton said: "We aim to contribute a great deal to the local area through the development of Salters Park, both in terms of the high quality homes we are building and the jobs we will be creating.

"We strongly believe that community development is one of the most important aspects of any new housing development and we hope that these financial contributions will go a long way towards improving the lives of people who live there."

Police probe at complex

A POLICE investigation is under way after residents and staff at a West Bromwich sheltered housing complex were taken ill with symptoms similar to food poisoning.

One person was arrested and released on police bail after officers were called to Goldfield Court on Tuesday.

Tests are continuing to determine the exact nature and cause of the illness. The home is run by Housing & Care 21, in partnership with Sandwell Council.

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Evictions and Asbos for estate yobs

THE crackdown on anti-social behaviour in Tipton saw action taken against 11 people. The case was heard in a county court which resulted in eight people being evicted from their homes.

Four Asbos were handed out as well as two anti-social behaviour injunctions.

Keighley Garratt, aged 27 and David Brookes 27, from Hall Lane, were both evicted. Brooks also received an Asbo banning him from Tipton for four years. He must not use or threaten to use violence in any public place, use abusive, threatening, racist or offensive words or behaviour in a public place, cause damage or knowingly attempting to cause damage to any property belonging to others.

Jodie Hipkins, 30, and Chris Boot, 29, from Coronation Road, were both evicted. Boot also received an Asbo banning him from Tipton for four years. He must not act in a manner that causes nuisance, harassment, alarm or distress to others. Doreen Bentley, 74, and Colin Taylor, 75 , of Hawthorn Road, were evicted.

Michelle Anslow, 45 and Russell Anslow, 48, of Hall Lane, were evicted and received a two-year injunction banning them from the Moat Farm Estate. It also bans them from using violence or threatening behaviour, using foul or offensive language, deliberately damaging or threatening to damage property, and from using, selling or supplying drugs. Bentley's grandson Wayne Summers, 27, of Tamebrook Way received a four-year Asbo banning him from Tipton.

He can only enter it to access his property or visit Wednesbury Oak School and Wythwood Grove to fulfil family commitments. Lee Anslow, 27, was excluded him from of Sandwell. Dannielle Doody, 29, ended her Hawthorn Road tenancy.

Gang which terrorised neighbours thrown out

FOR years they thrived on spreading fear and misery throughout a Sandwell estate, terrorising their neighbours and leaving them too scared to leave their homes.

But now eight gang members have been turfed out of their homes.

Michelle Anslow

Russell Anslow

And some banned from the whole of Tipton after a dossier of their yob behaviour was presented to a court.

In total, 27 folders of evidence were put before a judge who decided to grant the eviction and hand out antisocial behaviour orders.

Residents lived in fear of the members of the VR6 gang, who ruled the Moat Farm Estate with their intimidating behaviour.

But following a four-year investigation, some justice has finally caught up with them. While much of their behaviour is criminal, it has been difficult for police to press charges because residents are too scared to go on the record and give evidence. Sandwell Council and the Black Country Housing Group joined forces to take the gang to court.

The gang includes David Brookes, aged 27, of Hall Lane, and Christopher Boot, 29 of Coronation Road, and Wayne Summers, 27, of Tamebrook Way, who were all given Asbos and all banned from Tipton for four years.

Lee Anslow, 27, of no fixed abode is banned for five years from the whole of Sandwell. The four are also banned from contacting each other and a number of known associates in any public place.

A sign on one of the empty houses telling of the eviction

The mess left behind in the garden of one of the properties

Their ASBO restrictions revealed a dangerous list of weapons they were banned from carrying : axes, screw drivers or angle grinders.

They must not wear a balaclava, a helmet with a visor or any item of clothing that would conceal their faces in public places.

Following the three-day case, in which officers were forced to go through the civil courts because the burden of proof needed is less than criminal courts, eight people were evicted from four rented properties.

The joint operation between the council, the housing group and West Midlands Police resulted in the crack down on a known gang of criminal and anti-social residents.

The network of family members and their associates had consistently taken part in a range of criminal and anti-social activities, including threats to kill against neighbours, verbal abuse and threats against police and council and housing group staff.

Deputy council leader, Councillor Mahboob Hussain, said: "The vast majority of tenants are law-abiding but we are cracking down firmly on the small minority who are involved in anti-social and criminal activities.

"The action that has been taken by all the organisations involved sends out a strong message that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated." Housing group chief executive Amanda Tomlinson said: "This is a live and successful example of how we are working in partnership with Sandwell Council and the police to tackle anti-social behaviour."

Inspector Akeel Najib, of Sandwell Police, said: "It is understandable that local people were incredibly reluctant to come forward for fear of reprisals.

"This made the process all the more challenging for police officers and council officers who had to draw on small pieces of information from a range of sources to complete the jigsaw and fully understand the extent of the problems."

A breach of an Asbo can lead to up to five years in prison.

Jobs as banquet suite set to expand

A BANQUETING suite and community centre in Smethwick will be expanded to create 20 jobs.

New Heritage Limited has been granted permission to make the changes at the Prestige Suite, Downing Street, allowing it to host larger functions.

It will mean buildings formerly used by the Glenside Recycling Group will be demolished.

Under the plans, approved by Sandwell Council, the extension would be built on parking areas.

A bigger car park, which will increase spaces from 50 to90, will be created on land provided by the demolition of a warehouse.

The extension will increase facilities at the suite and allow larger areas which can be used by the community.

It is estimated the extension will allow the venue to accommodate around 725 guests, an increase of 225.

Councillor Preet Gill, ward member for Smethwick, said: "Anything that brings investment and jobs into Smethwick is to be welcomed."

"There are other developments of this kind in the area but I do not think that is a bad thing as it gives people greater choice."

Uni project up for award

A BUSINESS start-up project run by five universities in the Midlands has been shortlisted for a national award.

SPEED Plus is designed to offer university staff, students and alumni, as well as graduates from other universities who are returning to the West Midlands, the chance to start up a new business. The £4.2m project is run at the University of Wolverhampton, Birmingham City University, Coventry University, Staffordshire University and Keele University and aims to create 600 new businesses

Rambling date

WEST Bromwich Ramblers have organised a walk in Inkberrow, Worcestershire. On Sunday the group will be doing six and eight-mile rambles. They are leaving from West Bromwich Town Hall at 9pm. Non-members are welcome, for details call 0121 358 6591.

Firm will recruit to help with expansion

A SUPPLIER of bedroom furniture and beds is to take on four more staff after taking more space at the West Bromwich industrial estate where it is based.

Serene Furnishings needs the space at its headquarters to cope with expansion plans.

The business, based on the Hill Top Estate, has grown significantly since it launched in 2005.

Now, as the family-run business plans its latest push for growth, it has taken on an additional 35,300sq ft and is the biggest tenant on the fully-let estate.

Director Nadirah Habib, who runs the firm with husband Tasleem Tasab, said they were looking to take on up to four people to add to the 40 who work in the business, which supplies more than 700 retailers across the UK.

The extra space is needed to accommodate a new range of products they plan to unveil at the flagship Interiors UK exhibition at the NEC in January, she said.

It plans to move into the unit this month.

"We've had to take on bigger units as the company has grown and this new range that we are going to stock means we need even more space," she said.

Help offer to export firms

A BUSINESS organisation has linked up with a export firm to offer advice for companies across the Black Country.

The Black Country Chamber of Commerce has joined forces with Export Expert to help businesses try to thrive abroad.

Experts will be available for between two and six weeks to help a firm in its global sales opportunities.

The chamber has also launched two further programmes aimed at helping senior managers improve their business strategies and diversify products.

Curate appointed

FORMER nurse Kathy Evans is the new curate at St Paul's Church, Blackheath.

The mother-of-two, who trained as a midwife at Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield, was ordained in 2009. She said: "I am now where I believe God wants me to be."

Killer loses court appeal to clear his name

ONE of three men who killed a father-of-three during a three-day violent ordeal has failed in a court bid to clear his name.

Balbir Singh, aged 54, was found dead at his flat in Tividale, after suffering more than 150 separate injuries at the hands of Paramjit Singh Johal, Inderjit Dhesi and Paramjit Singh.

The three men all received 13-year jail terms in December 2012 after being found guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court of his manslaughter. Johal, 52, of Baldwin Close, Tividale, challenged his conviction at the Appeal Courtwith his lawyers arguing it was 'unsafe'.

They claimed the case should never have been left to jurors to decide, as they could not be sure on the evidence that Mr Singh's death resulted from a 'joint enterprise' between the three men.

But his claim was thrown out by the three appeal judges, who said the trial judge was 'plainly entitled' to conclude there was enough evidence for the case to be left to the jury to decide. They also dismissed an appeal against Johal's sentence, saying it was 'not excessive' in light of the 'humiliation – if not torture' of the victim.

The court heard that Balbir was found dead at his home in Baldwin Close on March 5 after Johal, who also lived there, phoned the emergency services.

He told them a person who was drunk had fallen over and died.

The victim was found to have sustained 155 separate injuries, including bruising and fractured ribs, during a three-day ordeal. In addition, his beard and moustache had been shaved off, his Sikh turban was removed and his hair was cut, and his face had been painted.

The court heard his killers, who were also Sikh, would have understood the humiliation this would have caused to Mr Singh.

The three were originally charged with murder, but the trial judge found there was not enough evidence that they intended to kill him. However, Johal was found guilty of manslaughter, along with Dhesi, 33, of Brades Road, Oldbury, and Paramjit Singh, 48, from Kent.

Johal's lawyers argued that, as there was no medical evidence as to which injury caused Mr Singh's death, and no evidence the three had agreed to attack him, the case against him should have been dismissed.

Appeal, Judge Charles Wide said: "Plainly there was abundant evidence that all three defendants participated in a joint enterprise to assault Balbir Singh."

It all Adeys up for shop's fresh start at museum

report by Adam Grinsell

IT'S a greengrocers which is quite literally offering a taste of the past. A once-thriving shop which served the community for generations has been brought back to life brick-by-brick at the Black Country Living Museum.

It has been restored to its original state as of 1916 during the midst of the First World War. Lit by gas lights, it only sells fruit and vegetables that were available at the time.

Three generations of the Adey family, who nearly 100 years ago were living in Willenhall, were invited to 'reopen' the shop which welcomed customers from 1916 to 1932.

Jim Adey, aged 81, his 51-year-old son Andrew and grand-daughter Melanie, 22, are all descendants of Gertrude and William, who ran a greengrocers on Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, in the early 20th century.

What the family did not realise was that, before the shop's demolition, experts from the museum were able to replicate the building brick-by-brick in 1995 and reconstruct it on site at their Tipton Road base.

Research since that time revealed the history of the greengrocers, so curators have now recreated how it would have been back in 1916 when it first opened.

The Adey family visit the museum to see the restored greengrocers

Jim Adey, 81, grandson of William, took this photo in 1950

Costumed guides portray the original owners, Gertrude and William Adey

William Adey, born 1875 and son,William Alexander, born 1900

Exciting

After an appeal in the Express & Star for relations of Gertrude and William to come forward, the modern-day Adeys were able to cut the ribbon on the Black Country Living Museum's new greengrocers – complete with 'live' versions of their ancestors.

Andrew Adey, who lives in Wolverhampton and works as a dentist, said: "I've been researching my family tree on and off for 30 or so years, and to learn that the Black Country Living Museum has recreated a part of it is very exciting."

Costumed characters playing William and Gertrude were there to greet the family, as they will with other visitors to the museum in the future.

Gertrude Adey will be manning the shop, selling fruit and vegetables as well as teaching visitors about the life of the couple as they made their living and survived the war.

Because it will be selling fruit and vegetables only available when it was first open, that means no modern favourites such as kiwis, avocados or courgettes.

To be truly historically accurate, the museum will only sell seasonal items and will look at using leftovers to make pickles, preserves and chutneys which visitors will be able to buy.

But not all is quite the same as it was in 1916 – to fit the building in with its surroundings, the museum's experts had to flip the shop around, so from the outside it looks to be a backwards re-creation.

Clare Weston, a curator at the museum, said: "The building has been on site since 1995 but we hadn't done much with it.

"Last year we decided to restore the shop to its former glory and began researching its past.

"We found out from a trade directory from 1916 that it was a greengrocer's run by Gertrude Adey. After a public appeal for information Andrew Adey got in touch and it was a great surprise to him to find his family's shop had been recreated.

"Mr Adey was able to fill us in on the history of his family and that has helped us bring the shop to life. It's not just a greengrocers from the turn of the century, it's a real shop with real people."

Mr Adey added: "It's wonderful that this shop, that helped provide for our family 100 years ago, is up and running again.

"We live in a completely different world now and it is great to think the greengrocers will help teach future generations about how we used to live." The shop was originally opened by Gertrude in 1916 to help her earn some money while William was away fighting in the midst of the First World War.

But it went on from there to become a thriving local business, which served the Willenhall community until the pair retired in the 1930s.

The building went on to remain in the ownership of the Adey family for several decades more, and became a draper's in around the 1950s.

But the building had to make way for new development in the '90s.

Before that could happen the museum's experts took each brick, measuring it, to create an outline of the building that was then used to construct the replica that is there today.

NEWS IN BRIEF

First aiders to teach shoppers

SHOPPERS in West Bromwich will be able to pick up life saving first aid tips thanks to St John Ambulance volunteer.

They will be holding free first aid demonstrations in New Square Shopping Centre from 10am to 4pm on Saturday.

They will give one-to-ones in basic life saving skills, from how to deal with someone who is choking to how to perform CPR in the event of a cardiac arrest.

Volunteers will also be handing out free first aid guide.

Community group website launch

A COMMUNITY group which aims to improve and promote Bearwood is to have its own website.

We Are Bearwood is set to launch it in Bearwood Road, on August 30. It will have a directory of businesses, community groups and traders. It is also expected to have a calendar of events for users to update, and a community blog.

The not-for-profit organisation is holding a meeting on August 12 from 8pm at the Abbey Hotel on Abbey Road.

Service to be held in priest's memory

A COMMEMORATION service is being held at All Saints Parish Church, West Bromwich, tomorrow (Friday) for a much-loved former priest. The Rev Francesca Dixon spent 10 years at the church as a deacon, where she built up a reputation for delivering poetic sermons.

She was ordained as a priest in 1994. She died on June 29. The service starts at 7.30pm.

Charity is chosen for help from store

FUNDRAISERS at a supermarket have announced their chosen charity for the year. Sainsbury's Blackheath will be supporting the town's branch of the Royal British Legion

Other causes shortlisted were Midland Air Ambulance, Sandwell Sea Cadets and the Friends of Sandwell Hospital, who received £100 each.

£35m leisure deal

ONE of the West Midlands' biggest leisure complexes has been sold in a £35 million deal. Five Ways Leisure Park, Birmingham, is home to nightclub Gatecrasher and Cineworld cinema.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

OUR changing language. Closing a number of Muslim bank accounts, HSBC says it's because they "fall outside our risk appetite."

WE journalists, being wordsmiths trained in economy and accuracy of language, would never use such jargon. Wanna bet? Reporting on the departure of a newspaper boss, the media website Hold the Front Page announces: "He has worked to transform the company from a primarily print and product-focussed group to a customer and community-focussed media solutions business." Ye gods and little fishes.

THE DVLA says there will be consultation on plans to reduce the cost of renewing a driving licence. So here's my response: don't be so damn silly. We renew our licences only once every 10 years. The plan is to reduce the fee from £50 to £34. That's a saving of £1.60 a year or about 0.4p a day. It is a piffling sum which most motorists will not even notice. Yet it will cost the Government about £18 million a year, which could surely be spent on something useful. Like filling in a few potholes?

AS the First World War commemorations reach their climax, a reader raises a fascinating question. Who is the youngest child of a veteran of the 1916 Battle of the Somme? He believes his sister, aged 70, is a contender. However, many Somme veterans were still around in the 1980s and some may have married more than once. It is perfectly possible that someone alive today in their 60s or even their 50s had a father who went over the top on July 1, 1916.

WHEN geeky, gawky Ed Miliband acknowledged his weird looks and admitted he'd never win a photo-opportunity, he was trying to stress his deeper, invisible qualities. I was reminded of Iain Duncan Smith's darkest hour in 2003. The then Tory leader growled: "Do not underestimate the determination of a quiet man." But it was a quiet, desperate sort of growl and it didn't work the miracle. One pundit labelled IDS "the quiet man who has much to be quiet about." It will probably be the same with Miliband. To be fair, there are a number of reasons why someone may appear weird. They may have inherited a shifty look. They may possess an awkward sort of face. They may have a deep-rooted problem with bacon sandwiches. But one of the commonest reasons for a bloke looking weird is that he is weird.

EVEN so, prepare for the weird man entering Number Ten. The constituency boundaries are now so unfair that any Labour leader in the past 100 years could beat the Tories. With the obvious exception of Neil Kinnock.

BLACK cats are said to be suddenly unpopular, partly because they do not photograph well in selfies. According to the RSPCA, today's most popular cat colour is ginger. What a strange society it is that cherishes ginger cats but makes fun of ginger humans.

WHERE are the police when you really need them? If you happen to live in Dorset, the answer could be that they're busy nicking folk like Wayne Duke. The 34-year-old drives a classic 1969 Dodge Charger and, according to reports, was taking a bride and groom to their reception when he sounded his Dixie-tune air horn. A police car promptly pulled him over. Mr Duke says he didn't know the horn was illegal and you might think, as it was a wedding day, the police would have let him off with a gentle warning. Instead they handed him a summons to appear in court. The story has sparked an internet storm of "haven't the police got anything better to do?" I am a wee bit suspicious.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Mixed feelings as fans bag their shirts

WEST Bromwich Albion supporters swept aside criticism of the club's controversial new kit as they queued to be among the first to get their hands on the shirts.

The club sparked debate among fans when it unveiled the one-season-only kit, which has moved from the club's traditional thick vertical stripes for a pinstripe design.

About 70 fans queued at The Hawthorns, from 8.30am on Friday for the release of the souvenir kit, which is priced at £44.99 for a shirt.

When the doors opened at 9am, the supporters flocked into the club shop before re-emerging soon after outside with their shirts.

Steve Venables, aged 54, of Lilac Grove, Wednesbury, who said: "It is the first time I have got the shirt on the day of its launch, there is real excitement among the people queuing up to get them. I know the design has caused some grief but I think the fans will get their heads around it eventually."

Rob Phillips, 25, of Victoria Street, Swan Village, West Bromwich, said: "I like it, it's different. I am sure a lot of people will be wearing it, it's an Albion shirt after all. I like the pin stripes, I think it's a modern football kit fit for the club."

Melanie Harris, 51, of James Eaton Close, West Bromwich, bought a shirt for her two-year-old grandson Bray Adcock, his third Albion shirt. She said: "I don't think the kit design is too popular in the family and I preferred the traditional design. But if it is a one-off, maybe it isn't too bad to have a change every now and then."

Anniversary honoured by parades and vigil

HUNDREDS of people across Sandwell played their part in marking 100 years since the beginning of the First World War.

The commemorations started in Wednesbury on Sunday where around 200 people lined the streets for a parade of veterans and other well-wishers to the town's cenotaph.

There, hundreds watched as a 35-minute service was held, and wreaths were laid by groups and individuals from across the town.

Mark Freeth, aged 54 of Hazel Road, Tipton, is the crucifer at Wednesbury's St James' Church, and carried the cross in the procession. He said: "It is quite an honour to lead a parade in Wednesbury."

Veterans stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the service men and women of the future as members of the Royal British Legion joined the Young Navy Cadets, Boys' Brigade and others for the paradey from Church Hill to the cenotaph in Holyhead Road for a service.

A 12-hour vigil took place in Oldbury Civic Square, next to the town's cenotaph, on Monday, in the lead-up to 11pm, the time on August 4, 1914 when Britain officially declared war on Germany.

Organisations took turns to stand for an hour each at the cenotaph and display their standards.

These included Oldbury Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps, West Bromwich Royal Air Force and Navy Associations, Sandwell Scouts, Royal British Legions from Blackheath, Oldbury, Tipton and Smethwick, the 225 and 237 Reservists and the Sikh 1914-18 Association.

There was a parade from Low Town car park to the Civic Square for a service, two-minute silence and poetry reading by children.

Then at 10pm the vigil, as well as borough libraries, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Bromwich Town Hall, Highfields and Court House, West Bromwich, Wednesbury Town Hall, Smethwick Council House and the council offices at Rowley Lane joined the national Lights Out initiative

The parade to mark the 100th anniversary since the start of the First World War makes its way through Wednesbury

Tom Bedworth, chairman of the Wednesbury Royal British Legion

Standard bearers Mark Cook and Jane Wigman at Wednesbury

Navy cadets, from left, Josh Smith, Chloe Mackay and Liam Jones

Wreath layer Rita Hampton with her partner Mark Freeth

People gather at the Wednesbury cenotaph for the centenary service

Cpl Gareth Jones at the Oldbury vigil

Work will promote art of the selfie

A NEW job has opened up for a contemporary artist at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery to help create an artwork to celebrate the selfie.

Sandwell Museum Service is looking to appoint an artist to create a piece of art as part of its current exhibition 400 Years of the Selfie: Portraits from the Ingestre Hall Collection.

The collection is made up of artwork from the hall in Staffordshire, which is a residential arts centre for young people operated by Sandwell Council.

It also photographs from the Sandwell Archives and work by Martin Parr.

To celebrate the success of the exhibition, Sandwell Museums want to commission a contemporary artist to respond to the exhibition and create a new piece of art.

The successful candidate will be set the task of creating a final piece of work with the help of the people of Sandwell, particularly Wednesbury, that will take place this summer.

As part of their submission artists have been asked for their proposals for workshops and community events to help create content for the work, which will be unveiled this autumn.

Sponsorship deal for club

A FOOTBALL club has secured sponsorship with a Rowley Regis insurance company for next season.

AFC Wulfrunians, which plays in the Midland Football Alliance League and Midland Floodlit Youth League, has been handed £1,000 by Falcon Insurance.

It has more than 1,000 people involved as players, staff or volunteers. and it costs between £40,000 to £50,000-a-year to run.

Falcon Insurance director Pinder Dhaliwal, said: "I love the way AFC Wulfrunians are giving something back to so many.

Stranded in lift

TWO people were rescued from a broken lift with one needing oxygen after fainting. Crews from Highgate Fire Station were called out to Job Centre Plus, in Broad Street, Birmingham, last Wednesday afternoon. There were six people in the lift when it broke down.

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Julie gets shock on family history show

CELEBRITIES can normally expect a skeleton or two to come out of the closet when they appear on popular BBC show Who Do You Think You Are?

But Smethwick's finest, Julie Walters, was left stunned to hear that her great grandfather was once charged with murder.

The beloved multi award-winning actress and her family tree will be the subject of the first episode of the new series tonight (Thursday).

In an emotional programme the national treasure will be seen in tears when learning about the poverty some of her ancestors were forced to live in.

The actress, known for roles in Educating Rita, Dinnerladies and the Harry Potter films, travelled to Ireland to trace her family history.

Her great-grandfather Anthony becomes the subject of the most surprising revelations that Walters uncovers.

He raised seven children in County Mayo, living in a large house and farming 43 acres of land. Anthony became secretary of the local branch of the Irish National Land League, representing small tenants fighting to prevent evictions of poverty-stricken people.

But in 1881 the group was banned and leaders imprisoned, with Anthony placed on a wanted-list.

He evaded arrest by moving to America but in 1884 was charged with murder after a fracas with a 75-year-old taxi driver, James Joyce. However, it transpired he died of natural causes following a seizure and not of any injuries sustained in the fight.

The story may one day be the subject of a film or TV series, if Walters gets her way.

She said: "It sounds like trumped up charges. Maybe the police had it in for him as he was an activist and troublemaker.

"They wanted to imprison him. I'm so relieved he didn't murder anyone. What a life he's had. One minute he's a hero, the next minute he is a criminal. I will have to write a script about him."

Bendy bus will ease life for commuters into city

RESIDENTS in Bearwood look set to benefit from a £15 million rapid transport service that will connect them with Birmingham city centre.

The hybrid Sprint bus will initially be trialled between the city centre and Quinton. The route will include a number of stops on Hagley Road West, Bearwood.

The Sprint has been dubbed 'Metro's Little Sister' by Centro, the authority behind the plan. The bendy bus will run along dedicated lanes with priority traffic signalling to speed up journeys. Similar systems are in use in Swansea, Las Vegas and Lyon.

It will be fitted with a diesel-electric hybrid, making it cheaper to run and less polluting than conventional buses. The bus will also be more luxurious and offer WiFi. It will also be fitted with high definition CCTV.

Sandwell Council ward member for Bearwood, Councillor Bob Piper, said: "I think this is a good thing for Bearwood and I welcome the idea.

"Not only will it encourage more people to live in the area and commute to Birmingham, but it will also bring people from Birmingham into Bearwood at a time when we are seeing major investment in the high street.

"I can see a time when people will finish work in Birmingham, climb on the Sprint system and travel to the newly-restored Lightwoods house and park."

by Tom Mason

Centro chief executive Geoff Inskip said: "Sprint is part of the vision we have for a world-class public transport system in the West Midlands. By offering a fast and reliable alternative to the car we believe we can get more people on to public transport, thus reducing traffic congestion that costs this region's economy £2.3 billion a year."

If the plans are approved, later this year construction could start in 2015 and be completed within 18 months.

A second route costing £50 million could also be established by 2021 that will link Birmingham City Centre and the airport, serving the proposed HS2 Interchange and Birmingham International station.

People can share their views by visiting www.centro.org.uk – the deadline for consultation is September 21.

Motorcycle museum visitors increase

VISITOR numbers have soared by 40 per cent at the National Motorcycle Museum for July, as it marks its 30th anniversary.

The success has been attributed to the attraction's pop-up gallery 'A celebration of the motorcycle' as part of its celebrations.

The museum reached out to budding artists, residents and students to create a piece of artwork that is, in some form, a celebration of the motorcycle.

The pop-up gallery opened on July 1 and will run until the museum's 30th anniversary celebration which will be on November 1.

Maintaining its position as one of the Midlands most popular visitor attractions, the National Motorcycle Museum has invested more than £650,000 across the site to create even greater capacity for community and one off events.

Nick Hartland, director of the museum, said: "The diversity and growth of Birmingham as a cultural and visitor hub has allowed us to grow with the city. The midlands offer some of the best venues and visitor spaces"

The museum close to Birmingham International airport welcomes more than 250,000 visitors each year.

Flight deal for students

AIRLINE Flybe, which is the biggest regional operator from Birmingham Airport, has teamed up with a specialist student and youth travel company.

The deal with STA Travel will see a range of affordable seat fares offered across Flybe's network of more than 180 routes to STA's customers. It operates in more than 60 countries, has more than 230 stores globally and a web booking engine.

Flybe chief commercial officer Paul Simmons said: "The global student and youth travel market offers enormous potential."

Art on show

THE Black Country Artists Club will be holding an exhibition and sale of arts and crafts produced by club members from August 11 to 16 at Hurst Green Methodist Church, Narrow Lane, Halesowen, from 10.30am to 5pm daily. Admission is free.

Crash woman rescued

A WOMAN had to be cut out of her car and taken to hospital after a crash. The woman, believed to be 40, was driving on Soho Way in Smethwick at 1.30pm on Saturday when her Peugeot collided with a small transit van. Fire crews from West Bromwich and Smethwick were called, and firefighters had to cut the roof off her car before she could be freed. She was taken to hospital by paramedics, but her condition was not thought to be serious.

Jodie Stimpson celebrates her race win with her cousin Lydia Baggott, aged eight

Jodie in the swim on home ground

GOLDEN girl Jodie Stimpson was mobbed by fans when she took part in her first competition since winning two gold medals in the Commonwealth Games.

Back on home soil on Sunday she led the way in a new running and swimming event named in her honour – The Jodie Stimpson Aquathlon – at Sandwell Valley Country Park in West Bromwich.

And it turned into a family affair when her five-months pregnant sister Carrie took part in the swim across Swan Pool and mum Judy joined her in the sprint.

The 25-year-old from Oldbury, who spent two hours after the competition signing autographs and posing for pictures, said her feet still had not touched the ground since her success in Glasgow.

She said: "It's been overwhelming – manic, to be honest, but absolutely fantastic"

Around 100 people competed in the event organised jointly by Jodie's old club, The Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club, and Sport England.

Jodie said: "It was great that my sister took part as well."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Parts of Ringway shut for repairs

PARTS of West Bromwich Ringway is closed overnight this week to allow the road to be resurfaced. A section between Spon Lane and its junction with St Michael Street will be closed between midnight and 5am until Saturday.

It is to allow resurfacing at the junction of West Bromwich Ringway and West Bromwich Bus Station and the entrance to Morrison's at the Farley Centre.

An alternative route is available along Spon Lane, Sams Lane, Lytleton Street Bromford Lane, Moor Street and Price Street.

City gets sporty for the summer

FOOTBALL, cricket, rounders and tennis are all on offer at parks across Birmingham throughout August. The city council has announced 22 ParkLives sessions giving the people a three-hour taster of the sport.

They will run from Monday until August 30. Sessions are taking place at sites including Cotteridge Park, Walkers Heath Park Selly Oak Park, Handsworth Park and Ward End Park. For times call 0121 303 1111.

Beer is brewed for ale festival

A BREWERY has created a beer specially for a real ale festival in Bilston.

Cafe Metro's Back Rom Bar in Church Street is holding its beer festival from today (Thursday) to Saturday. Kinver Brewery has brewed Bilston Remembered just for it.

Ales from around the country will also be featured including Wye Valley HPA and Rev James, from Brains Brewery.

Four-day festival of quilting display

FINAL preparations are under way for an event where thousands of quilts will be on display.

The Festival of Quilts will be held at the NEC from today (Thursday) until Sunday. It is Europe's leading patchwork and quilting show.

There will be around 350 exhibitors and 1,000 competition quilts on display.

Group honoured

A SOCIAL housing group has been recognised for supporting its staff with a top award. Black Country Housing Group, which has offices in Blackheath, has received the Investors in People gold status.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

WOULD you believe it? Well, no, actually.

Researchers at Oxford University have found that youngsters who play computer games for at least an hour a day turn out to be happier, more sociable, and less hyperactive than those who don't.

In other words, sitting in a darkened room, wearing a gothic T-shirt and shouting 'Die' at the computer screen is a sort of 21st century way to make friends and influence people.

Of course it is.

Now those 'researchers'. Were they students by any chance?

❒❒❒

AFTER being diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 48, hospice worker Geraldine Jones made a bucket list of things she wanted to do before she died. Among them was riding a horse across a deserted beach.

After three years, Mrs Jones was given the all-clear, and to celebrate she decided to do the ride on Llangennith beach on the Gower peninsular.

She died from head injuries sustained while falling from the horse.

It is impossible to think what her family must be going through at the moment, but at least she did die doing something she loved.

But this just shows that life can be very cruel sometimes.

❒❒❒

SOME years ago, the Government reduced vehicle excise duty for small, diesel engined cars to £30.

This was presumably in the belief that they were environmentally friendly.

Now, in order to discourage people from driving diesel-engined cars, Mayor of London Boris Johnson is threatening to double the congestion charge in the city for those using such vehicles.

Inevitably, local councils up and down the country say they are now considering measures to penalise diesel drivers in the name of cracking down on pollution.

And you wonder why there is so much scepticism about all this environmental malarkey?

❒❒❒

FOOTBALLER is found guilty of not trying to win a football match, and they call it throwing the game.

A lifetime ban and possible criminal prosecutions loom.

Lewis Hamilton defies his manager's instructions, and tries to win a motor race.

He is blasted for not being a team player.

No, I've never understood motor racing, either.

Haden Hall, showing the garden, which was accredited

West Park, not entered into the contest due to costs

One of the winners in Dudley, the lovely Priory Park

Awards flag up our green Black Country

Park life is alive and well as well-kept gardens continue to earn national accolades. **HEATHER LARGE** reports

FROM parks and playing fields to nature reserves and allotments – green spots across the West Midlands have all been awarded the coveted Green Flag award for their beauty.

Sandwell topped the charts in the Black Country and Staffordshire with 12 sites earning the accolade.

However there are none in Wolverhampton for the second year running after bosses failed to enter the awards despite boasting beauty spots such as Bantock Park and West Park because they said they couldn't afford it.

Wolverhampton Council's leisure chief Councillor Ellias Mattu said: "In future years we hope to enter the competition as soon as our financial situation has improved. At the moment we are struggling and other council services are our priority. This does not reflect negatively on our parks or park keepers who do an excellent job." He said it costs around £8,000 to enter which he said the authority could not justify.

Allotments

Among the sites in Sandwell to receive the green flag, which is considered the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in the UK, are Sandwell Valley Country Park, Tipton Cemetery, Victoria Park in Smethwick and Moorlands Allotments in West Bromwich.

Haden Hill Park in Cradley has received the Green Heritage Accreditation for the sixth year which is specifically for historic sites.

Council chiefs in the borough said they were delighted. Councillor Maria Crompton, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for environment, said: "People might not think of Sandwell as a place thriving with green spaces – but our Green Flag awards help to bust any myths that the borough is just an urban jungle. I am immensely proud that the people living in all our six towns have a Green Flag park within their area because they offer such a lot to the community including a place of recreation and peace and quiet."

While in Dudley there are seven winners including grade-I listed The Leasowes in Halesowen which also won the Green Heritage Accreditation, Huntingtree Park, Halesowen and Priory Park, Dudley and Silver Jubillee Park, Coseley as well as Wrens Nest National Nature Reserve, Dudley.

Environment and culture chief Councillor Hilary Bills said: "Our borough is blessed with a number of beautiful green spaces and I am delighted that the hard work of our teams and members of the local community is being recognised with this prestigious status."

In Walsall, both Willenhall Memorial Park and Palfrey Park – for the eighth and seventh years running respectively – earned the accolade, as well as Merrion's Wood and Rough Wood and Bentley Haye.

Councillor Anthony Harris, portfolio holder for leisure and culture with Walsall Council Coalition, added: "This is tremendous news for our much-loved countryside sites.

"Merrions Wood really draws you in. It's a smashing wildlife haven and you can completely lose yourself in its beauty. I'm so pleased it has deservedly retained its Green Flag.

"And congratulations to Rough Wood and Bentley Haye for their first time success. It's a real boost for the volunteers who care about the site so passionately and support our countryside staff."

Baggeridge Country Park near Sedgley and Wom Brook Walk in Wombourne, which are both run by South Staffordshire Council, received the award. While Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Gardens, Bewdley and Broadwaters Park, Kidderminster are also celebrating the accolade.

Nationally a record number of parks, cemeteries, university campuses and shopping centres - 1,476 in total - will be displaying their Green Flag Award.

Birmingham is in the UK Top Ten of places with the most awards, with 16, making it joint seventh.

Sites receiving the accolade include Cannon Hill Park, Sutton Coldfield Crematorium and Bournville Village Green. First-time winners include the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London, which opened to the public in April.

Sandwell Valley Country Park one of the borough's Green Flag winners

GREEN FLAG WINNERS:

CANNOCK: Cannock Park; Castle Ring – Green Heritage Accreditation; Elmore Park; Ravenhill Park .

LICHFIELD: Beacon Park

SOUTH STAFFS: Baggeridge Country Park; Wom Brook Walk, Wombourne

STAFFORD: Stafford Crematorium,Tixall Road; Victoria Park

DUDLEY: Huntingtree Park, Halesowen; Netherton Park, Netherton; Priory Park, Dudley; Silver Jubillee Park, Coseley; The Leasowes, Halesowen - Green Heritage Accreditation; Wollescote Park, Wollescote; Wrens Nest National Nature Reserve

WALSALL: Merrions Wood; Palfrey Park; Rough Wood and Bentley Haye; Willenhall Memorial Park

SANDWELL: Barnford Park, Oldbury; Brunswick Park, Wednesbury; Haden Hill Park, Cradley Heath - Green Heritage Accreditation; Sandwell Valley Country Park ; Sandwell Valley Crematorium; Tipton Cemetery; Victoria Park, Smethwick; Victoria Park, Tipton; Dingley Road Allotments, Wednesbury – Green Flag Community Award ; Barnford and Farm Road Allotments, Oldbury – Green Flag Community Award; Moorlands Allotments, West Bromwich – Green Flag Community Award Warley Woods

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

IS there really any difference between Nigel Farage and Alex Salmond?

Or, to put it another way, is UKIP's ambition for a country free from the shackles of the European Union any different from the Scottish Nationalists' desire to be rid of Westminster?

Both parties appeal to the same nationalist – some would say parochial and isolationist – instincts. How could a supporter of Britain's independence from Europe quibble if the Scots felt the same way about England?

The sight of Alex Salmond lording it around Glasgow like the King of the Commonwealth Games is enough to infuriate most Brits.

The leader of the Scots Nats clearly hopes the games will be another nail in the coffin of the historic United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This is not unlike Nigel Farage's hope that success in May's Euro elections will translate into a breakthrough in next year's General Election.

Mr Farage may be a Home Counties gin-and-tonic man compared to Mr Salmond's highland whisky. But is Mr Farage wrapping himself in the Union Jack really very different from Mr Salmond in a Saltire?

Both men come from outside the established political parties. They are both adept populists. They both articulate deeply-held views which are ignored by mainstream politicians. They are both 'people's politicians'.

But there is a difference between them – history. Mr Farage has history on his side; Mr Salmond does not. England and Scotland have, for all practical purposes, been a single unified country since 1603.

That's when Henry VII's great-great grandson James IV of Scotland took over from Elizabeth I and became James I of England as well. He called himself King of Great Britain and Ireland. The two countries were formally united a100 years later and, despite a few ups and downs, they have been happily and successfully united ever since.

Admittedly there were Scots back in the day who felt, as their poet Robbie Burns did, that the country was 'bought and sold with English gold'. In much the same way, there are many who believe it is only English gold which keeps the two nations united even now.

However, in the intervening three centuries or so, England and Scotland worked peacefullyr as one nation (along with the Welsh and many of the Irish) to create a global powerhouse.

Yet when we look at Britain's – not just England's – relations with the rest of Europe, things look quite different. For centuries we have worked to keep the peace across the English Channel. One way or another, we have been forced to sacrifice lives at frighteningly regular intervals to rescue Europe from its own folly.

Fully-armed police force is necessary

CALLS are being made to arm all our police officers, including 'specials' with tasers and appropriate training. As an ex-police officer I can tell you this measure will have no effect whatsoever.

The protocol of police, versus lawbreaker as it stands today is 1) Issue verbal command, 2) Pepper spray, 3) Baton, and 4) Taser. A police officer confronted by a gun-toting lawbreaker stands no chance. Where is the force, in 'police force'? It is non-existent. Before he could go through his brief, he would be down. France, Italy, Spain, America and a multitude of other countries arm their police, to good effect, we should do the same. Too many police officers in our country have lost their lives because they were not armed.

Respect for our police force must be restored, to keep law and order.As in other police respected countries, our officers would be armed with hand guns, and trained to wound, or if necessary, kill, armed dangerous criminals. We all remember Raoul Moat and the Hungerford slayer.

A PARKER, Willenhall

Tommy will not be forgotten

IT often said of famous people when they die that they will be sorely missed – and following on from that, within weeks they are almost forgotten.

However, Tommy Mundon is one person who will be remembered long after his death.

He will be celebrated for giving us fifty years of original jokes and stories.

And let's not forget his weekly cartoon in the Black Country Bugle.

He brought smiles and laughter to everyone who saw him perform live or read his words.

His best jokes will never die and neither will his memory – I am still telling some of Tommy's jokes he told forty years ago and I will keep telling them.

His Black Country observations and his unerring accuracy at portraying the people of the area he loved, were not made for profit or prestige but in humility and respect.

Goodbye, Tommy ... and thanks.

I Morgan
West Bromwich

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Sandwell.chronicle
@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

PM questions move sounds like gimmick

LABOUR Leader Ed Miliband's plan for a Public Prime Minister's Question Time may look like a good idea at first glance you know the arguments that have been put forward that having ordinary people being allowed to question the Prime Minister will open up democracy more.

Making the Premier accessible to the 'public' will somehow force the Prime Minister to address the matters that are current and not what happens to be on the minds of politicians who always seem to be evermore remote from the people's needs and aspirations.

However, in an age of the political spin machine you have to query precisely which members of the public will be chosen to ask the questions. Will it be a case of planted questions.

This can and does happen when a leader of one of the main parties holds a public meeting and if a Q&A session is held both questioner and question are chosen in advance because of the questioner's political affiliation.

Alternatively will Public Prime Minister's Question Time be like the question and answer sessions held at many UKIP meetings where questions are taken straight off the floor with no warning of what the question will be about or who the questioner is? Public Prime Minister's Question Time looks like a gimmick to me.

Graham Eardley
UKIP PPC
West Bromwich West

Get tough on greens yobs

I HAVE just been reading about the mindless scum who destroyed the greens at Warley Woods.

After the cold, wet winter the staff have worked wonders to restore the greens to impeccable conditions, equal to any private courses anywhere.

Me and a pal play there regularly and only last week we remarked on the quality of the course and greens realising the work and effort that goes into it.

How disgusting it is then that some lowlife could destroy all this in just a few minutes.

Me thinks the softly, softly approach isn't working somehow (often being a fine which they just don't pay).

Bring back borstal or similar punishment, oh sorry, I forgot about their human rights, silly me.

T M HIPKISS
Oldbury

Believers on path to war

J B Waldron of Stourbridge (Letters, July 22) has every right to question faiths albeit that he does not abide by one. This is so because the vast majority of conflicts are religiously based and threaten the rest of us including atheists who, by and large, cause no trouble.

I fail to understand why people of faith who profess to believe in 'love thy neighbour,' feel it necessary to show their devotion by doing things like invading Gaza, launching rockets and flying planes into skyscrapers.

D PARISH,
Rowley Regis

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Factories cleared on hygiene allegations

A FOOD group with branches in the Black Country has been given a clean bill of health after two of its factories were investigated over claims of hygiene failings.

The Food Standards Agency inspected Birmingham-based 2 sisters group's chicken processing sites at Scunthorpe and Llangefni, Anglesey.

Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt requested the audit into the plants after allegations that a factory was flooded with the guts of chickens and carcasses which came into contact with workers' boots and were then returned to the production line.

However, the company, which also has factories in West Bromwich, Smethwick and Wolverhampton, said both sites passed the rigorous audit processes which were carried out on July 25.

It rated Scunthorpe rated as 'good' and Llangefni as 'generally satisfactory'.

When the allegations surfaced last month the firm denied them as untrue, misleading and inaccurate.

Chief executive Ranjit Singh Boparan said: "We welcomed these audits and

By John Corser

we are pleased the FSA has worked with typical rigour and thoroughness.

"We are satisfied with their findings which show that no legislative compliance issues were raised.

"However, we must not be complacent.

"We operate our business in an environment of continual improvement and we will be carrying on with that to ensure we produce first-class British products for all of our customers"

In November 2 Sisters launched the UK's biggest-ever independent study into campylobacter a bacteria which can cause food poisoning, costing £6 million and collecting data from 124 million birds.

Tough Tommy back with Peaky Blinders

Moody gang leader Tommy Shelby, played by Cillian Murphy, in a picture to promote the next series of Peaky Blinders

LOOKING mean and moody, gang leader Tommy Shelby ponders his next move as he expands his criminal empire.

This is the first official picture of Cillian Murphy in character in the second series of hit BBC drama Peaky Blinders.

The series, much of which is filmed at the Black Country Living Museum, Dudley, returns to our screens later this year. Set in Birmingham's gambling underworld in the aftermath of the First World War, the next series also will star Tom Hardy, Helen McCrory and Sam Neill alongside Murphy.

Creator Steven Knight said: "It's getting bigger, it's getting richer and as a result of that it's getting more dangerous. The gang are entering areas of even greater jeopardy."

Cillian said: "We reached a point in series one where the Peaky Blinders' empire expanded beyond where the family was when Tommy became the de facto leader. Now the next target is London"

Peaky Blinders returns to BBC 2 this autumn.

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Teachers go after they tot up over 100 years

SCHOOLS out for more than just the summer for three Sandwell teachers who have retired after clocking up more than 100 years teaching between them.

Maggie Brookes, aged 58, notched up 37 years teaching at schools in the area.

Her final job was as headteacher of Warley Infant School in Oldbury, a role she had for 12 years.

"I was only 21 when I started teaching," she said. "I started at Hall Green Primary in West Bromwich. I had a temporary contract for one term and ended up staying for 16 years.

"I can't believe it has come to an end. I had always planned to retire early but I don't know what I will do without the children and their families. I am looking forward to enjoying married life, taking holidays in term time and getting more involved in my village and community."

Chris Spriggs, school business manager, said: "It is going to be strange in September without her. She will be missed by all, we are very sad to see her leave but she deserves to retire and deserves a rest. "

Jean Whitehouse also packed away her marking pens and texts books in Oldbury as she retired from Brandhall Primary School after 40 years of service in Sandwell schools.

The 62-year-old year three teacher started at the school in 1972 and over the years says she taught over 1,200 pupils. Headteacher Elaine Fitzgerald said: "We would like to thanks Mrs Whitehouse for her long and dedicated service. She will be missed."

Mrs Whitehouse, from Kingswinford, said: "We have a chalet on the beach in Somerset so will be going there for six weeks."

Pat Woods-Talbot also waved goodbye to the classroom at the end of term, retiring after 27 years at Springfield Primary School in Rowley Regis.

She was described by headteacher Sue Powis as the 'life and soul of the school'. "She has seen the school grow and move forward and she has given total dedication to the children," added Mrs Powis. Mrs Woods-Talbot, aged 59 and who lives Rowley Regis, said: "It was very hard saying goodbye after 27 years.

"They bought me a garden full of flowers and a cake shop full of chocolate. I also have had a charm bracelet to remind me of the children."

Mrs Woods-Talbot will be spending her retirement with her grandchildren in London and also plans to enjoy her singing and dancing hobbies.

Retiring – Maggie Brookes, aged 58

Jean Whitehouse with Brandhall pupils

Pat Woods-Talbot, retiring after 27 years, with pupil Darcey Willis, aged seven

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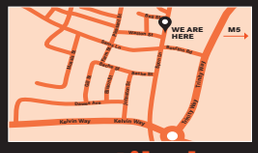

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Chiefs will decide on centres in September

A DECISION on whether opening hours at children's centres across Sandwell will be cut is to be made in the autumn.

Council chiefs are looking at how to save £2.45million over the next three years and are also considering whether some of the 20 centres could be used to house other services. A consultation is now taking place for people to have their say on the proposals.

By Heather Large

Sandwell Council's cabinet member for children's service Councillor Simon Hackett said: "We have to save £2.45m over the next three years from our budget for children's centres because of Government cuts.

"We will do everything we can to protect frontline services and we are seeking people's views on how to make changes. Voluntary sector partners run the borough's children's centres on our behalf and we are working closely with them to ensure children and families will continue to receive quality services."

The local authority has said no centres would close under the cost-cutting plans. The centres, are organised in seven clusters and provide activities for children aged under five and their families. Some bases have, more recently, provided some services for older children as well. There are in five centres in West Bromwich, four in the Cradley Heath/Rowley Regis area, four in Smethwick, three in Tipton, two in Oldbury and two in Wednesbury.

Under the proposals each of the seven clusters would have a 'core centre' which will have full-time opening hours. These would also be 'nursery plus' centres which will continue to provide nursery care full-time but will only be open to older children at set times.

The remainder will be 'satellite centres' which will only open on a part-time

Artist Gwen fired up for bricks bid

Artist Gwen Heeney with in the background, left, Steve Lambers of the river and canal trust and Stuart Lane

THE race is on to fire thousands of carefully shaped bricks to form a sculpture outside a revamped community centre in Sandwell.

Renowned artist Gwen Hinney created the sculpture for the entrance of the recently refurbished Brasshouse Community Centre in Smethwick this week using 14,000 wet clay bricks.

The artwork was built at The Pump House, off Rolfe Street, and it spells out the letters 'brass' before a sculpture of a house. It is 20 ft long and 5 ft high.

But following completion, the sculpture was pulled apart to each individual brick and has now been transported by barge along the canal to be picked up by a lorry and delivered to Ibstock Brick Limited in Leicester.

There each brick will be fired to solid stone before being brought to to the centre and rebuilt as an entrance wall.

Ms Hinney, a senior lecturer at the University of Wolverhampton, said: "It is an exciting project."

Last summer meal for group hit by funds crisis

A CHAT over a cuppa, a catch up and a chance to enjoy a day trip away all add up to a social lifeline for pensioners.

Cradley Heath's much-loved Darby and Joan Club has proved to be just that for its members over the 63 years.

But it's future is looking anything but bright as it is earmarked to close at Christmas because of a lack of funds.

Once boasting a thriving membership of 75 people, today the club has just 14 members.

Members meet every Wednesday afternoon at Overend Methodist Church off Banners Lane and the group celebrated their last summer meal last month.

They will continue to meet until December but their festive lunch will be the last meeting after organisers announced they no longer have the money to keep the weekly meetings going.

The decision to stop after 63 years is blamed on dwindling numbers and the lack of money to host two dinners per year and a number of social outings.

The members organise trips to local seaside resorts, with a favourite of the group being day trips to Morecambe.

Each week members pay £1 and enjoy a small hymn service and are entertained with a guest speaker or musician. They have the chance to enjoy a catch up with friends and share a pot of tea and slice of cake.

Organiser Betty Johnson said: "We will carry on until Christmas but we would rather go out on a high than dwindle out with no funds at all left. It will be a great shame. For many it is a reason to get out of the house."

Members enjoyed a summer lunch with a free gammon dinner and lemon cake. Each week there is a raffle and the lunch was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Sandwell.

Mayor and Consort, Derek and Glenis Rowley with club secretary Betty Johnson

Members seen on one of their most popular regular trips to Morecambe

Kathleen Homer, 90, from Cradley Heath is the longest serving member of the group and has been attending for 30 years.

She said: "I haven't missed many in all the years I have been coming. You get to meet up with friends and that is all the more important now I am on my own.

"I will be heartbroken when it closes, it will be a very sad day, I have enjoyed every minute of it.

Sandwell Mayor Councillor Derek Rowley said: "I have had a lovely afternoon, they are really nice people and it gives them an opportunity to get out and enjoy getting together.

"After 63 years it would be a crying shame to see this fold. The group needs someone to take it on."

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RAFA members at the clubhouse in Dixons Green Road, Dudley, in the 1970s

RAFA members working on the clubhouse in Dixons Green Road, Dudley, in 1974

Members enjoying a beer and comradeship at the Dudley branch of RAFA

President John Deane, vice-chairman Tony Timmins, associate member Margaret Bloomer and Secretary Sgt Stan West

RAF Association branch seeking new members

ONCE hundreds of members came together in remembrance, raised a pint with their comrades and enjoyed social evenings.

But now a Royal Air Force Association branch is facing an uncertain future unless they attract a new generation of members.

The 621 (Dudley) branch of the Royal Air Force Association has a proud history dating back almost 70 years.

Some earned their wings in Hurricane fighters as battles raged in the skies during the Second World War while others grafted during their National Service.

Numbers of veterans have dwindled over the years from hundreds until now only three active full members remain.

Two associate members, those who have not served for the RAF, also attend meetings and have helped draft a new social calendar.

MEMORY LANE

By Andrew Turton

The group hope to attract some of the 50 members still on the books back to regular meetings while also bringing new people on board. Otherwise members may have to instead join the Wolverhampton branch.

Flying the flag for the branch are three members who still hold weekly meetings for free at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, in Hall Street, Dudley.

Future

This year marks the 50th year that branch president John Deane, aged 77, has been involved with the association. Having joined the Air Training Corp in 1951 he went on to complete two years of National Service with the RAF.

Mr Deane, of Kingswinford, said they were keen to ensure the club has a future as well as a proud past. "We are struggling. It would be a shame if it could not continue," he added.

Branch secretary Sergeant Stan West, of Tipton, joined the RAF Association branch around seven years ago. He had previously been part of the 347 Squadron working in air electronics.

"One of the problems that we know is that certain people, because of age, don't want to come out at night. But if they arrange it for us then we would pick them up," he said.

The club opened in 1947 in a rented room over the old Dudley Fire Station in Priory Road. In December 1972 the association bought the former home of Bob Kennedy, impresario of Dudley Hippodrome, in Dixons Green Road. Many social events and charity fundraisers were held over the years. Among well known members was George Heritage, one of the last Hurricane pilots and a survivor of three plane crashes.

The clubhouse was sold four years ago. Now the group meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 8pm at the Ex-Servicemen's Club. To find out more call John on (01384) 830574 or Stan on 0121 530 2970.

RAFA on the march taking part in a Remembrance Day parade in Dudley in the early 1970s

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Spare dogs that killed my terrier, says owner

THE lives of two dogs which mauled a Yorkshire terrier to death have been spared after the owner of the dog that died said he did not wish to see them destroyed.

Robert Stanford, who was injured as he tried to protect his terriers Lilly and Ruby, said as a dog lover he did not want the animals to be put to sleep.

Marlana Stewart

However, the 73-year-old hit out at the two-year conditional discharge handed to 20-year-old Marlana Stewart, who was responsible for the dogs.

He said Stewart, of Field Road, Tipton, should have received a custodial sentence or community punishment after she pleaded guilty to two offences of being in charge of a dog that caused injury while dangerously out of control. She also pleaded guilty to possessing a fighting dog.

Stewart was also made the subject of two dog control orders relating to the animals she was walking, which belonged to her partner.

She was told that Narla, a Staffordshire bull terrier, should not be allowed in a public place unless on a lead and wearing a full-face muzzle.

A similar order was made on Simba, who was believed to be part pit bull, but also including a contingent destruction order which meant that the animal could be destroyed if the order was breached. Stewart was also ordered to pay Mr Stanford £250 in compensation. However, Mr Stanford, who has two artificial knees, said he had run up vets' bills in excess of £1,000 since the incident in an alleyway off Field Road last December.

Robert Stanford with Ruby, who survived the attack that killed Lilly

Lilly was killedand Ruby was left needing major veterinary care, Mr Stanford, of Eastfield Road, Tipton, said.

Miss Samantha Powys, representing Stewart, said she was 20 years old and of previous good character. She told Judge Robin Onions that if he passed a contingent destruction order, Stewart would be forced to find a new home within two months in order to comply, as the council would not be willing to house a dog with such an order on it.

She added that Stewart had never worked, and was a carer for her partner who suffered from schizophrenia.

"They have had these dogs since they were babies, and they love them," Miss Powys said. Passing sentence, Judge Onions said the crimes did not warrant a custodial sentence. "You are unable to do unpaid community work for reasons I won't go into in open court," he said.

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Officers in parade to celebrate

YOUNGSTERS at a Tipton school celebrated the end of the academic year when they joined up with police officers for a colourful parade.

Scores of pupils from Summerhill Primary School took part in the parade through the Tibbington Estate in Tipton.

The march was led by chief superintendent Matt Ward, local police officers and Sandwell's mayor, Councillor Derek Rowley.

Earlier police officers had run sessions at the school aimed at promoting harmony among the area's diverse communities.

Pc Emma Seville, who helped with the parade, said: "As police officers we often have to intervene when people's prejudices spill into criminal acts or anti-social behaviour. Tackling hate crime is priority for Sandwell Police."

Social clubs for sufferers

A CHARITY that aims to improve the quality of life of people with dementia and their family carers in Sandwell is inviting people to join their social clubs.

Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell (BUDS) runs weekly clubs offering peoplein West Bromwich, Smethwick, Great Barr, Rowley Regis, Tipton and Wednesbury the chance to socialise and receive support. For details contact 0121 5653721 or email info@buds.co.uk

FOCUS ON WEDNESBURY

Work completed on new £7.5m base for LoneStar

MORE than 300 jobs have been secured with the completion of a new £7.5 million headquarters for LoneStar Fasteners Europe which has now opened up for business in Wednesbury near Junction 9 of the M6.

The building includes a manufacturing and distribution centre and employees from the company's existing sites in the Black Country – two at Willenhall and another at Bilston – will be transferring to the new site.

by John Corser

Also on the move are with staff from the current head office in Kennicott House in Wednesfield. The site at Universal Point, Steelmans Road, was previously occupied by bathroom equipment firm Aqualux Products

PRD Fasteners at Monmer Close, Willenhall, Eurofast Petrochemical Supplies at Planetary Industrial Estate, Willenhall, and Triplefast International at Oxford Street Industrial Estate, Bilston are coming together to form LoneStar Fasteners Europe making special and non-standard fasteners and gaskets.

Extensive refurbishment of the existing building began earlier this year and is now complete in line with the scheduled programme.

The relocation work began on Friday, July 25, with the movement of the first machines and continues throughout August.

The sales and commercial offices will move across the weekends of August 16 and 17 and 23 and 24.

Brand new signage on the front, side and rear of the building has been installed.

The 95,000 sq ft warehouse and production space has finished refurbishment with new lighting installed and floors, walls and pathways painted. Delivery of machinery will take place throughout August and September.

State-of-the-art laboratory equipment will move across in September from the current lab which is located at PRD.

Aqualux, part of the Fetim Group, has relocated to a refurbished 57,058 sq ft warehouse at Solihull's Solar Park.

Bill and Joyce Roby from Hut Hill Lane, Great Wyrley, celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary, with their wedding album

Milestone joy for couple who were teenagers in love

THEY were born within 15 days of each other and lived in the same street. Now Bill Roby, a former registrar and welfare officer for Wednesbury, and his wife Joyce, are celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary.

The couple, who are both aged 82, married 60 years ago at St Luke's Church in Cannock.

They had their first date at the Danilo Cinema when they were 15 years old. They courted for seven years before tying the knot.

Mr Roby said: "We have many shared interests including dancing and gardening and we played tennis together until our mid-60s. We now play bowls which we both enjoy."

Mr Roby became a junior clerk at the Board of Guardians, which is now known as The Ivy House, in 1946.

He then became a registrar and welfare officer in Walsall, Wednesbury and Tamworth before transferring to the social services department in 1971. His wife worked as a computer operator in Birmingham before becoming a registrar of births, deaths and marriages for Cannock, Lichfield and Tamworth.

The couple of Huthill Lane in Great Wyrley, have two daughters, Judith aged 51 and Alison, 49, as well as two grand-daughters, Rebecca aged 17 and Megan, 16.

Mr Roby, a member of the Cannock Chase Male Orpheus Choir for the last 40 years, added: "You need to give and take and share your pastimes."

London trip is big prize for students

A group of students from a school in Darlaston who were handed personal achievement awards have also won an all expenses paid trip to London. Eight students from Grace Academy Darlaston have won the coveted International Motors Personal Achievement Award for 2014.

The IM Awards were presented to the students by John Loach, parts and service training manager for IM Group, at a ceremony at the school, in recognition of their personal progress during the academic year.

The students are set to enjoy the high life in a top four-star hotel, along with award winners from Grace Academies in Coventry and Solihull. Somparkash Chumber, one of the winning students, said: "It is good to win the award. I am really looking forward to seeing Buckingham Palace."

Ill health puts Joe's gig back

A REMINDER has been issued that the singer and impressionist Joe Longthorne, will be returning for a concert at Wednesbury Town Hall in December, after he had to pull out of a show last week due to ill health.

He will now perform later this year on December 4. Organisers, Wednesbury Celebrates, have said they will honour all the tickets bought for that date or will offer refunds if guests aren't able to attend.

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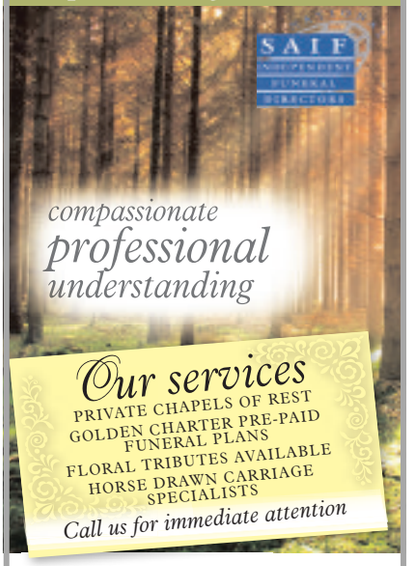

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Lifesaving Badgers on hunt for new members

TWO future of two children's volunteer groups is uncertain as they are currently running very low on members.

The Sandwell and Dudley branches of the St John Ambulance Badger groups need more volunteers for when its sessions start up again in September.

The first aid charity says numbers at its two units are getting too low, and they are looking for more young volunteers aged five to 10 to secure the future of the groups.

Badgers teaches the next generation of first aiders, as the children learn important life saving and other skills such as communication and team work.

Similar to the Scouts and Guides, they also take part in events such as camping and outdoor activities.

Carolyn Zivoder, regional youth co-ordinator for St John Ambulance, said: "Badgers learn the life saving skills which could one day be the difference between a life lost and a life saved.

"However, becoming a Badger isn't only about learning first aid. It's a great way to make new friends and, most importantly, have fun in a safe environment.

"Many St John Ambulance volunteers who start as Badgers stay with us for many years and end up working in the medical profession."

Research carried out by St John Ambulance showed that less than one in seven West Midlands residents, 14 per cent, know even the basic life saving skills.

The charity says that teaching children the basics from an early age could be key to ensuring more people are equipped to be the difference in an emergency situation.

St John Ambulance is a popular group with young people in the West Midlands, with 777 Badgers currently attending groups in the in the whole of the county, with 1,455 St John Ambulance Cadets, who are young volunteers aged 11 to 18.

Aaron Gough and Charlie Jerrison Eglington with leaders Marie and Neil Evans

Carolyn Zivoder added: "St John Ambulance believes that nobody should die because they needed first aid and didn't get it. Yet every year thousands of people die in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live." The Sandwell group meets on Thursdays at the charity's centre in Roebuck Lane in West Bromwich, from 6.30pm to 8pm.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Carolyn Zivoder on 0121 236 6660 or email carolyn.zivoder@sja.org.uk

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With an audience of over a hundred thousand and a budget of millions, tickets sell out months in advance. TV celebrities turn up in secret and Prince William has even been four times!

The three-hour performance delivers an extravaganza of non-stop music, singing, dancing, humour and variety and includes a cast of 130 professional entertainers, many who have performed in the West End.

A visit to Cambridge is also on the itinerary during this Norfolk break which is famous for its colleges, and especially King's College Chapel, with the world's largest fan vault and a priceless Rubens over the altar.

Maybe take a walk and enjoy the scenery or find time to visit the Fitzwilliam Museum (entrance payable locally) which holds collections of art and antiquities.

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State-of-the-art fire station opens

Bluewatch at the new station, Kev Atkinson, Paul Morris, Dominic Rose, Jamie Law, Matt Crawford and Temple Jones

IT has served the community for 72 years but now now firefighters have bid a fond farewell to their old station as they moved into a state-of-the-art new base.

Cradley Heath's fire station closed its doors for the final time on Monday before personnel pat and present paraded to the newly-built Haden Cross Fire Station on Barrs Road.

It is on the site of former municipal buildings.

Station Commander Marc Hudson said saying goodbye to the old fire station was an emotional experience.

However, he added: "Haden Cross will provide modern bespoke fire station and community facilities."

Councillor John Edwards, Chairman of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, served at Cradley Heath station during his 12-year stint as a firefighter. He said: "The move to the new Haden Cross station fulfils the promise we made to the communities of Cradley Heath and Halesowen.

"We are providing a new community fire station to provide, not just a first class emergency response, but also prevention and protection services to the people we serve."

A community 'open afternoon' will take place at the new station on September 6.

Horgan Homes has submitted a planning application to demolish the former Halesowen station in Hagley Road and build 14 homes.

A piper leads the the parade lead from the old Cradley Heath Fire Station

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Midge and Kiki in feast of the arts

SINGERS Midge Ure and Kiki Dee, broadcaster Joan Bakewell, actress Judy Cornwell and former Labour minister Chris Mullin form part of a varied bill as this year's Bewdley Festival celebrates its 27th year.

It will bring a feast the arts to the Worcestershire town for 10 days in October. Ultravox and Band Aid star Midge Ure opens the festival on October 10, his 61st birthday.

The line-up also includes comedian Hal Cruttenden, jazz star Courtney Pine, actress Jo Enright, pianist Andrei Gavrilov, historian Max Keen and a festival finale from The Overtures.

See www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk with tickets also available on 01905 611427 or from Bewdley Tourist Information Centre.

Real Estate sounds like good investment

BROOKLYN-BASED rock quintet Real Estate will be in concert at Digbeth venue The Institute on October 24.

The band originally from New Jersey have made one of best rock albums of the year so far with their Chicago-recorded Atlas, a slow burning sleeper hit of an album that is likely to be on many hipster summer playlists.

The Birmingham date (tickets £14.50) follows their appearance at The Green Man Festival in Wales this month and the release of new single Had To Hear coupled with theuir cover of The Nerves' Paper Dolls.

1970s musical is all set to be a real Blockbuster in Brum

FROM Sweet to Suzi Quatro, chart hits from the 1970s and 80s will feature in a new family musical arriving in Birmingham next month.

The cast of Blockbuster The Musical includes 70s pop star and TV sit-com actor Paul Nicholas along with former Hear'Say and Emmerdale star Suzanne Shaw.

The show is staged at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham from September 23 to 27.

Paul Nicholas will play Crazy Max in the musical featuring the hits of the songwriting team Nicky Chinn and Mike Chapman.

Blockbuster the Musical begins in the modern era with Mickey Block, a young busker, singing in London's Soho. But when he crashes a car without insurance he is pursued by a loan shark and has to take refuge in Crazy Max's Retro Record shop.

Mystical Max tells him he can turn his life around if he performs two selfless deeds within seven days — and then finds himself transported back in time to London in 1975.

Paul Nicholas and Suzanne Shaw star in a musical

Friends

Paul Nicholas became a household favourite with his role as Vince in the award-winning BBC TV series Just Good Friends. His theatrical success began in 1969 in the original London production of Hair. This was followed by leading roles in Jesus Christ Superstar, Grease, Cats, Blondel and Charlie Girl.

He also appeared as the Pirate King in a highly successful production of The Pirates of Penzance and starred in the first ever national tour of Barnum.

In more recent years he has had a successful career as a theatre producer.

He said: "I am hoping it will be an entertaining family show.

"People can bring their children and also be reminded of the great songs from the 70s."

Suzanne is best known for winning the ITV show Popstars The Rivals and being in Hear'Say from 2001 to 2003.

She has since carved out a career in the West End, appearing in Chicago and The Rocky Horror Picture Show as well as becoming a regular on TB screens playing Eve Jensen in Emmerdale.

The book of the musical has been penned by David Soames, who co-wrote the musical Time for Cliff Richard which ran for two years in the West End.

The huge number of hits featured in the show will include chart-toppers by Sweet, Suzi Quatro, Smokie, Tina Turner and Mud, including Ballroom Blitz, Blockbuster, Teenager Rampage, Little Willy, Tiger Feet, Devil Gate Drive, Can The Can, Some Girls, Lay Back in the Arms of Someone, Living Next Door To Alice, Better Be Good to Me and Mickey.

California sunshine Creation

AMERICAN duo The Pierces are coming to Birmingham's Glee Club next month as part of a ten city UK tour to support their new album Creation.

It is the follow-up to sisters Allison and Catherine Pierce's 2011 breakthrough album, You & I, when the Alabama-born siblings also played the club venue in The Arcadian Centre.

Glorious

That album yielded radio favourites You'll Be Mine, Glorious and It Will Not Be Forgotten. It also won the girls a support slot to Coldplay.

Now resident in California, Creation reflects the duo's West Coast sun-drenched location while retaining the breezy, melodious charm of their previous folk/pop work, and includes single Kings.

Creation is out on September 1 and The Pierces play the Glee on September 24. Tickets £16.

The Pierces — sisters Catherine, left, and Allison

Asia putting back gig by 48 hours

ROCK band Asia have changed their date for a Black Country gig.

The British band had been due to play Wolverhampton's Wulfrun Hall on October 30 but this has been moved by 48 hours to November 1. Promoters said the change was due to the band having media commitments.

The British supergroup's 1982 debut album was the biggest selling album in America that year. The band reunited in 2006 and the latest four man line up includes John Wetton guitar and vocals, Carl Palmer drums, Geoff Downes keyboards and new guitarist Bromsgrove-born Sam Coulson, stepping into Steve Howe's shoes. They have a new album out entitled Gravitas.

War and fairy tale themes at ballet

CLASSIC ballets will be part of Birmingham Royal Ballet's autumn programme at its home theatre, Birmingham Hippodrome.

From September 30 to October 4, the timeless fairy tale Beauty and the Beast will return to the repertoire for magical performances choreographed by company director David Bintley.

The Shadows of War will follow from October 8 to 11, including Kenneth MacMillan's La Fin du jour, Bintley's Flowers of the Forest and Gillian Lynne's reworking of Robert Helpmann's groundbreaking 1940s work Miracle in the Gorbals.

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CHOICE

Sarah Harding

Tumble (BBC1, 6.30pm)
Alex Jones hosts this celebrity contest in which famous faces perform gymnastics and circus skills for a judging panel including world-renowned Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci and Team GB medallist Louis Smith. Braving the tough training - and the tight spandex costumes - are world super-middleweight boxing champion Carl Froch, singers Amelle Berrabah and Sarah Harding, EastEnders actor John Partridge, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, Steps singer Ian 'H' Watkins, one-time Dynasty actress Emma Samms, Wolfblood star Bobby Lockwood, Loose Women anchor Andrea McLean and former TOWIE star Lucy Mecklenburgh. They begin with either an acrobatic floor routine or by performing on the aerial hoop.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **12.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Warrington Wolves v Leeds Rhinos (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.20** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.40** Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 Tumble. New series. Alex Jones hosts this celebrity contest in which famous faces perform gymnastics and circus skills for a judging panel including world-renowned Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci and Team GB medallist Louis Smith. Braving the tough training – and the tight spandex costumes – are world super-middleweight boxing champion Carl Froch, singers Amelle Berrabah and Sarah Harding, EastEnders actor John Partridge, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, Steps singer Ian "H" Watkins, one-time Dynasty actress Emma Samms, Wolfblood star Bobby Lockwood, Loose Women anchor Andrea McLean and former TOWIE star Lucy Mecklenburgh. They begin with either an acrobatic floor routine or by performing on the aerial hoop, and there is an extra treat as judge Louis Smith leads a performance with his London 2012 team-mates.

8.00 The National Lottery: Break the Safe. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs compete to play for a cash prize.

8.50 Casualty. A face from the past jeopardises Rita's future, while Lofty and Cal manage to reunite a family struggling to cope with their autistic son thanks to some creative thinking. Returning after a four-week break.

9.40 Mrs Brown's Boys. Rory and Dino have a bust-up, Mark and Betty announce they are leaving for Australia right away and a phone call causes the Brown children to suspect one of them may be adopted. (R)

10.10 BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update.

10.30 Michael McIntyre's Showtime. Stand-up comedy performed at the O2 in London during his 10-night run in 2012. (R)

11.30 The Football League Show.

12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.25 Film: The Falcon and the Co-Eds. (1943) **7.30 Film:** The Falcon Out West. (1944) **8.35** The Living Planet. (R) **9.30** Sweets Made Simple. (R) **10.00** Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo. (R) **10.30** Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo. (R) **11.00** Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo. (R) **11.30** Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo. (R) **12.00** Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo. (R) **12.30** Rick Stein's India. (R) **1.30** John Mills: Talking Pictures. (R) **2.05 Film:** We Dive at Dawn. (1943) Adventure, starring John Mills. **3.40** Flog It! (R) **4.00** Natural World: A Bear with a Bounty. (R) **5.00** Live Cycling.

6.00 Great War Diaries. A second batch of dramatic reconstructions based on the letters and journals people whose lives were affected by the First World War. A young Cossack girl experiences a gas attack on the Russian front; an Austrian soldier despairs as he is transported to Siberia; and a Scottish volunteer nurse desperately tries to help the survivors of the genocide in Armenia. A traumatised Italian-American believes he is possessed by the Holy Spirit; a British officer has to act as tour guide for an MP; a German soldier witnesses the horrors of the Somme and a schoolgirl is drawn into a brief romance with a young airman.

7.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. Fern Britton goes up against her husband Phil Vickery in the heirloom-hunting challenge, with expert advice from Mark Stacey and James Braxton. (R)

8.00 Dad's Army. A daring bid to rescue Walker and Godfrey from a stricken pumping station ends with Mainwaring and his whole platoon trapped and facing the prospect of drowning. (R)

8.30 Proms Extra 2014. Katie Derham is joined by opera star Willard White, who performs in the studio.

9.15 Melvyn Bragg's Radical Lives. Part two of two. The broadcaster examines the life of 18th-century English radical Thomas Paine, whose works inspired the American and French revolutions.

10.15 QI XL. Extended edition. (R)

11.00 Film: Seraphim Falls. (2006) Western thriller, starring Pierce Brosnan and Anjelica Huston.

12.45 Film: Mother's Boys. (1994) **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **6.55** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.25** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.40** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.55** Chowder. (R) **8.10** Chowder. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25 Film:** Murder, She Wrote: The Last Free Man. (2001) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.20** Storage Hoarders. (R) **1.20** The Unforgettable Ernie Wise. (R) **2.20** Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover. (R) **3.25** All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) **4.25 Film:** Housesitter. (1992) Romantic comedy, starring Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn.

6.20 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.30 ITV News; Weather.

6.45 The Guide to You've Been Framed! Comedian Harry Hill presents a compilation of viewer-submitted comical clips, including a dog on a slide, a cat trying to take part in a game of table tennis, and an elderly woman falling foul of a micro-scooter. (R)

7.45 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Impressionist and comedian Jon Culshaw, TV and radio presenter Jenni Falconer and former Dancing on Ice judge Jason Gardiner take turns on the arcade-style token-pushing machine. Dropping counters down a choice of four chutes, the celebrity contestants hope to knock piles of them off a moving shelf – and the more they collect, the better their chances of scooping the £20,000 prize for a charity of their choice. Game show, hosted by Ben Shephard.

8.45 All Star Family Fortunes. Casualty's Patrick Robinson and Big Brother's Bit on the Side host Rylan Clark team up with their families to win money for charity. Vernon Kay presents the game show. (R)

9.45 Film: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope. (1977) Farm boy Luke Skywalker sets out to rescue a princess from the clutches of evil Darth Vader. George Lucas's sci-fi adventure, starring Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford and Carrie Fisher. Continues after the News.

10.40 ITV News; Weather.

10.55 Film: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope. (1977) Concluded.

12.30 The Cube. (R) **1.20** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Trans World Sport. **7.00** Armoy Road Races. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.55** Frasier. (R) **10.25** Frasier. (R) **10.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.20** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.45** The Simpsons. (R) **12.10** The Simpsons. (R) **12.40** Speed with Guy Martin. (R) **1.40** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot, Haydock Park and Newmarket. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Businessman Ken Brown hosts the final dinner party in Co Durham and Wearside, and provides his guests with some unique entertainment before the winner is announced. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year. George Clarke presents the Normal and Pub Shed categories, featuring a Dad's Army-themed creation and a 1970s amusement park, before choosing the overall winner. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud follows interior designer Kathryn Tyler as she tries to create a Scandinavian-style eco house in her mother's back garden in Falmouth, Cornwall. The plan is ambitious, featuring a white-painted brick ground floor, a lightweight timber-frame first floor and cleverly designed spaces, but the small size of the plot and Kathryn's inexperience could hamper the project. (R)

9.00 Film: Immortals. (2011) Premiere. A power-mad ancient Greek king raises an army with the intention of not only conquering the known world, but using a mystical weapon to unleash the legendary titans and overthrow the gods. The immortal deities are unable to interfere directly, so select a mortal man to be their champion and defeat the tyrant. Mythological adventure, starring Henry Cavill and Mickey Rourke.

11.10 Film: Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street. (2008) A Victorian barber obsessed with revenge takes to murdering his clients. Tim Burton's adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's musical horror, starring Johnny Depp.

1.15 The Last Leg. (R) **2.00** Utopia. (R) **2.55** Homeland. (R) **4.00** Hollyoaks.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Access. **10.10** Meerkat Manor. (R) **10.40** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.40** Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) **12.40 Film:** Rocky IV. (1985) Boxing drama, starring Sylvester Stallone. **2.30 Film:** Any Which Way You Can. (1980) Comedy sequel, starring Clint Eastwood. **4.40 Film:** The Sea Wolves. (1980) Second World War adventure, with Gregory Peck.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from the third day of the Fourth Test at Old Trafford as the five-match series continued. England boast an excellent recent record here in this format, having won six and drawn two of their last eight Tests, including a stalemate against Australia in their last match at this venue 12 months ago. Commentary and analysis by Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Vaughan, Sunil Gavaskar and Simon Hughes.

8.00 World's Worst Storms. Documentary featuring footage of some of the world's most extreme weather captured by those who survived it. In Indianapolis, freak winds cause a 32-ton stage to collapse on top of spectators, Hurricane Sandy strikes a small coastal town in New York and a tornado tears a peaceful Illinois neighbourhood to pieces. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Big Brother. Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house. Including another chance to see last night's eviction, revealing the latest unlucky housemate who was given just 30 seconds to say their goodbyes, and how their departure has affected the others.

10.00 Dangerous Dog Owners & Proud. People whose dogs are either illegal, trained to be dangerous, or both, including a man who can make his red-nosed pit bull behave aggressively with a simple command. (R)

11.05 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. Rylan Clark, Iain Lee and Luisa Zissman analyse the housemates' behaviour as they enter their last week, with input from psychologists and body-language experts. Last in the series.

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** Big Brother. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Doctor Who: The Day of the Doctor **8.20** Top Gear **9.05** Russell Howard's Good News **9.35 Film:** Old School (2003) **11.05** Family Guy **2.00** People Just Do Nothing **3.00** Sexy Beasts **3.30** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Sounds of the 70s 2 Rock – The Boys Are Back in Town **7.30** Eisteddfod 2014 **8.00** Human Planet **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** Robert Plant @ Glastonbury **12.00** Robert Plant: By Myself **1.00** Guitar Heroes at the BBC **2.00** Human Planet **3.00** Pop! The Science of Bubbles **4.00** Close

ITV2

11.35 Take Me Out **12.45 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **2.55 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **4.40** You've Been Framed! **5.40** You've Been Framed Extreme! **6.45 Film:** Back to the Future (1985) **9.00 Film:** The Holiday (2006) **11.45 Film:** Billy Madison (1995) **1.35** The Magaluf Weekender **2.25** Life's Funniest Moments **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.45 The Railway Children **2.50** A Touch of Frost **7.00** Lewis **9.00** Foyle's War **11.00** Bomb Girls **12.00** A Touch of Frost **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.30 The Cycle Show **12.30** Alias Smith and Jones **1.40** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **3.15** British Superbike Championship Highlights **4.15** Storage Wars **5.15** Live Pre-Season Football. Tottenham Hotspur v Schalke 04 (Kick-off 5.30pm). **7.30 Film:** Thunderball (1965) **10.10 Film:** Ocean's Eleven (2001) **12.30** Hornblower **2.35** World of Sport: TV Firsts **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **4.30** Teleshopping

E4

11.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **12.30** The Big Bang Theory **1.30** How I Met Your Mother **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **3.30** Melissa & Joey **4.30 Film:** Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **6.35** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **7.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Twilight (2008) **10.30** The 100 **11.30** The Big Bang Theory **12.30** Virtually Famous **1.20** How I Met Your Mother **2.40** Bob's Burgers **3.00** Rules of Engagement **3.25** The Mindy Project **4.15** Desperate Housewives

Film4

11.00 On the Fiddle (1961) **1.00** New in Town (2009) **2.50** Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (2011) **4.50** August Rush (2007) **7.00** The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008) **9.00** Devil (2010) **10.35** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **12.20** Punch-Drunk Love (2003) **2.10** Snake in the Eagle's Shadow (1978)

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CHOICE

Maxine Peake

The Village (BBC1, 9pm)
The epic drama charting the life and times of Peak District villagers moves into the 1920s, where the arrival of the jazz age has radically changed old perceptions of love, sex and politics. Life is good for the Allinghams in the big house, who are throwing a weekend party, and as part of their entertainment Bert takes part in a race – only to be accused of cheating. His father John is now a dairy farmer, but is struggling to pay the rent on his barn. However, Bert comes up with a money-making plan when boxer Ghana Jones, who has been barred from fighting professionally because of the colour of his skin, offers all-comers a chance to take him on. Tom Varey joins the cast as the 21-year-old Bert, with Maxine Peake and John Simm.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. **1.00** BBC News. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Live Cycling. The RideLondon-Surrey Classic.
6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
7.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the experts return to Hampton Court Castle in Herefordshire, where items up for valuation include a silver dish given to former prime minister Neville Chamberlain, a set of drinking urns shaped as Herefordshire bulls, and a collection of SAS medals. (R)
8.00 Countryfile: Summer Special. Summer special in which the team celebrates the best in rural Britain at the Cotswold County Show in Cirencester. Ellie Harrison tries her hand at archery, Adam Henson invites city dwellers for a taste of life on the farm and Matt Baker discovers how 100 years ago the showground played host to soldiers rather than summer revellers. John Craven cooks up a seasonal feast with 2011 Celebrity MasterChef winner Phil Vickery, poet Ian McMillan and cartoonist Tony Husband capture an artistic view of the day and John Hammond explains the science of the summer weather.
9.00 The Village. New series. The drama set in a Peak District village moves into the 1920s. John is now a dairy farmer but is struggling with his rent, so son Bert takes to the boxing ring.
10.00 BBC News; Regional News.
10.25 MOTD: Community Shield Highlights. Jason Mohammad introduces action from the Community Shield at Wembley Stadium, as Arsenal and Manchester City clashed for the first silverware of the season.
11.10 Live at the Apollo. Alan Carr hosts the stand-up show at London's Hammersmith Apollo, introducing routines by comedians Andi Osho and Patrick Kielty. (R)
11.40 Film: Annapolis. (2006) A trainee cadet at a naval academy clashes with a senior officer and ends up having to fight him in a boxing match. Drama, starring James Franco and Donnie Wahlberg.
1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Countryfile. (R) **7.00** Alan Titchmarsh's Garden Secrets. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** The Football League Show. (R) **10.20** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.50** Rick Stein's India. (R) **12.50 Film:** Firecreek. (1968) Western, starring James Stewart. **2.30** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Castleford Tigers v Widnes Vikings (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Flog It! (R)
6.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. Janice Long takes on her Radio 2 colleague Ken Bruce as they embark on a road trip around Oxfordshire with experts Christina Trevanion and Paul Laidlaw, searching for antiques that will sell at auction for a profit. Along the way, Ken indulges his passion for buses. (R)
7.00 Tropic of Capricorn. Simon Reeve continues his quest to trace the southern tropic, travelling from South Africa to Madagascar. In Zimbabwe, the presenter comes face to face with the harsh realities of the refugee crisis, and witnesses a unique method of land-mine disposal in Mozambique. Heading to the Madagascan islands, he discovers an unusual local delicacy, and visits a town where the poor make a living by digging for sapphires. (R)
8.00 Dragons' Den. Business ideas pitched include a product that uses nano-suction technology, gourmet marshmallow treats, an alarmed LED walking stick and a cycling brand for the larger figure.
9.00 James May's Cars of the People. New series. The Top Gear presenter examines the social significance of cars in the 20th century, beginning by looking at how dictators kick-started the mobilisation of the masses.
10.00 Legacy. A trainee MI6 agent sets out to recruit a Soviet diplomat, but finds evidence of a KGB plot to mount an attack within the UK. Cold War thriller set in 1974, starring Charlie Cox. (R)
11.30 Film: The Trench. (1999) British soldiers in the trenches begin to question their leaders' honesty in the build-up to the Battle of the Somme. First World War drama, starring Daniel Craig and Paul Nicholls.
1.05 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.00** Holby City. (R) **3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **6.55** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.25** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.40** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.55** Chowder. (R) **8.10** Chowder. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** May the Best House Win. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News. **11.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **12.30** Long Lost Family. (R) **1.30 Film:** Columbo: Troubled Waters. (1975) Drama, with Peter Falk. **3.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.35** Tipping Point. (R)
6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Come On Down! The Game Show Story. New series. Bradley Walsh charts the history of the TV game show, interviewing some of the biggest names in showbiz and sharing his favourite moments from a format that has entertained audiences for more than 60 years. In the first edition, Bruce Forsyth talks about his game show career spanning six decades, Terry Wogan reveals the secrets behind the success of Blankety Blank and there are contributions from a host of other stars.
8.00 The Zoo. New series. The documentary follows staff at London Zoo and Whipsnade as they breed critically endangered animals. This edition charts the journey of three Sumatran tiger cubs.
9.00 The Great War: The People's Story. New series. Stars including Daniel Mays, Matthew McNulty and MyAnna Buring bring to life the original diaries, letters and memoirs of men and women caught up in the First World War.
10.00 ITV News; Weather.
10.15 Kids with Cameras: Diary of a Children's Ward. Documentary in which more than 100 youngsters are each given cameras to record their experiences as patients at Newcastle's Great North Children's Hospital. (R)
11.15 Premiership Rugby 7s Series. Highlights of finals night from the Stoop, where the qualifiers from the group stage competed in two pools of four, with the two teams that topped the tables competing in the final.
12.15 The Store. **2.15** Motorsport UK. **3.10** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.05** Britain's Best Bakery. (R) **4.55** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.35** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.00** Caterham Motorsport. **7.30** London Triathlon. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.25 Film:** Step Up 3. (2010) Dance drama sequel, starring Rick Malambri. **5.35** Deal or No Deal.
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Tom's Fantastic Floating Home. Inventor Tom Lawton works tirelessly to complete his floating home before taking it for a maiden voyage down the river. This time he turns his creative imagination to rest and relaxation by reimagining the sofa as a stargazing seating area, bringing light below deck with a fibre-optic solar jellyfish, and making an inflatable bed out of tennis balls. Last in the series.
8.00 The Mill. Eight months have passed and single Esther is in the last stages of pregnancy. Despite a difficult labour, she finally gives birth to a healthy boy and returns to work the following day, but struggles to keep pace. Despite the overwhelming success of the Kersal Moor rally, the Chartist Petition – containing more than a million signatures – is rejected by Parliament. Daniel urges his angry comrades not to resort to physical force, although he fails to show similar restraint toward his wife Susannah when she tells him she wants to return to work.
9.00 Child Genius. It's the final and just six gifted youngsters remain in the battle to be crowned Child Genius. Each of them has chosen a complex specialist subject to be tested on, from particle physics and string theory, to the Battle of Stamford Bridge, with questions devised by leading experts in their chosen field. Last in the series.
10.00 Film: The Eagle. (2011) A Roman centurion and his British slave journey into the wilds of Scotland to recover the standard of a lost legion. Action adventure, starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell.
12.15 Film: Red Cliff. (2008) **2.40** First Time Farmers. (R) **3.35** The Million Pound Drop. (R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.25** Gordon Ramsay's Home Cooking. (R) **5.50** River Cottage Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **8.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Access. (R) **10.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.10 Film:** Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol. (1987) **2.55 Film:** Baby Boom. (1987) Comedy, starring Diane Keaton. **5.05 Film:** The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep. (2007) Adventure, starring Alex Etel.
7.00 Cricket on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day four of the Fourth Test at Old Trafford as the five-match series continued.
7.55 5 News Weekend.
8.00 Caught with Their Fingers in the Till. Documentary exploring three instances of thieving employees who brought the companies they worked for to their knees. Bookkeeper Janet saddled a trusting community with over £1million of debt by claiming false grants while stealing from the local parish council, while Kirsty spent years earning the trust of her employer while quietly pocketing around £300,000 which she spent on online shopping and her dream wedding. Serial fraudster Stephen splashed out on home improvements and fed his gambling habit, leading to his boss being forced to shut down the business and dismiss 50 staff.
9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights.
10.00 Film: Killers. (2010) A spy puts his life of espionage behind him and settles into domestic bliss, until a contract is placed on his life. Action comedy, with Ashton Kutcher and Katherine Heigl.
12.00 Shoplifters and Proud. (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** World's Scariest Drivers. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **7.10 Film:** Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) **9.00** Our World War **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Siblings **11.15** Cuckoo **11.45** American Dad! **12.30** Sexy Beasts **1.00** Siblings **1.30** Cuckoo **2.00** Russell Howard's Good News **2.30** Impractical Jokers
BBC Four
7.00 The Sunday Prom: John Tavener Premiere **8.25** Secret Knowledge: Bolsover Castle with Lucy Worsley **9.00** Great Poets in Their Own Words **10.00** Edinburgh Extra **11.00** The Sky at Night **11.30** Horizon: 40 Years on the Moon **12.30** Imagine – Rod Stewart: Can't Stop Me Now **1.55** Rod Stewart at the BBC **2.55** Sings the Great American Songbook **3.55** Close
ITV2
12.35 America's Got Talent **3.20** You've Been Framed! **3.55** You've Been Framed! Kids Special **4.55 Film:** Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004) **6.50 Film:** Back to the Future Part II (1989) **9.00 Film:** Shaun of the Dead (2004) **11.00 Film:** State of Play (2009) **1.25** The Big Reunion 2014 **2.20** You've Been Framed! **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV Nightscreen
ITV3
1.00 Inspector Morse **3.25 Film:** Holiday On the Buses (1973) **5.05** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **6.20 Film:** Columbo: Fade in to Murder (1976) **8.00** Lewis **10.00 Film:** The Pianist (2002) **1.00** William and Mary **1.55** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **2.50** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.15** Emmerdale
ITV4
11.25 The Car Chasers **12.30 Film:** The Secret War of Harry Frigg (1967) **2.45 Film:** Battle of the Bulge (1965) **6.00** Storage Wars **8.00** Premiership Rugby 7s Series **9.00 Film:** Driven to Kill (2009) **11.00** Hell on Wheels **11.55** Alias Smith and Jones **1.00** River Monsters **2.05** Richard Bacon's Beer and Pizza Club **2.40** Movies Now
E4
12.35 How I Met Your Mother **1.35** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.35** Suburgatory **3.00** The Mindy Project **3.30** New Girl **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **5.00** The 100 **6.00** Rude(ish) Tube **6.55 Film:** The Wedding Planner (2001) **9.00** Made in Chelsea NYC **10.00** Almost Royal **10.35** The Big Bang Theory **11.35** Virtually Famous **12.25** Rules of Engagement **1.20** Ben Earl: Trick Artist **2.20** The Cleveland Show **3.20** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 Geordie (1955) **1.00** The Italian Job (1969) **3.00** Aliens in the Attic (2009) **4.45** King Solomon's Mines (1985) **6.40** Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) **9.00** Colombiana (2011) **11.05** Memento (2000) **1.20** Away We Go (2009) **3.15** Close

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Sun 24th Aug	**MOTOWN DISCO** - In Lounge
Mon 25th Aug	**CHESTER RIGGON** - In Lounge
Fri 29th Aug	**THE NAKED BEATLES**
Fri 19th Sept	**ZAK TOLLEY** - In Lounge
Sat 20th Sept	**AMY WINEHOUSE TRIBUTE**
Fri 3rd Oct	**GLAMSTAR ROCKBAND 70/80'S** (Adrian Marx)
Fri 10th Oct	**POKER JACK** - Live Band
Fri 31st Oct	**HALLOWEEN PARTY**
Fri 14th Nov	**BON JOVI TRIBUTE**
Fri 28th Nov	**CHARITY NIGHT** - Lullaby Trust Live Group - **BABY LOVE**
Fri 5th Dec	**Glam Rock Night** - Adrian Marx
Wed 24th Dec	**UB4t Tribute - Christmas Eve Party**
Wed 31st Dec	**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
A Nanny's Secret, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A burglary at the home of a wealthy family results in a death. The nanny fears her troubled brother may be the culprit, but keeps her suspicions from her employers, mounting her own secret investigation to find out who was responsible. Thriller, starring Haylie Duff. (2009)

TUESDAY
A Surrogate's Terror, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A college student agrees to be a surrogate mother for a wealthy couple in return for her tuition fees being paid, only for the prospective parents to die in a car crash. She faces an uncertain future as the grandmother of her unborn child gets custody of it and assumes control over every aspect of her life. Drama, starring Cassie Steele and Mimi Kuzyk. (2014)

WEDNESDAY
Sharpay's Fabulous Adventure, BBC2, 12pm
A teenage prima donna is convinced her dreams of fame have come true when she meets a Broadway casting director. She heads for New York expecting to see her name in lights, only to find it is her dog that is going to be a star. Comedy, with Ashley Tisdale. (2011)

Dog Day Afternoon, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

THURSDAY
Biker Boyz, BBC1, 11.35pm
The son of a mechanic killed in a crash is determined to honour his father's memory by becoming a champion motorcycle racer. However, the leader of the underground motorcycle club where his father worked refuses to let him join. Outraged, the young biker assembles his own team and vows to avenge the insult, proving once and for all who the fastest rider really is. Action drama, starring Laurence Fishburne, Derek Luke, Orlando Jones and Lisa Bonet. (2003)

FRIDAY
Dog Day Afternoon, ITV, 10.40pm
A hapless bank robber sees his simple heist turn into a hostage situation and a media circus. Sidney Lumet's fact-based drama, starring Al Pacino. (1975)
The English Patient, BBC2, 11.05pm
The enigmatic, badly burned survivor of a Second World War plane crash is tended by a French-Canadian nurse in a derelict Italian monastery. He tells her the story of his passionate love affair with a married Englishwoman. Oscar-winning romantic drama, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas. (1996)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Looking back at times of capital punishment

Over the years, British movies 10 Rillington Place, Dance with a Stranger and Let Him Have It have addressed the often disturbing subject of innocent and guilty people sentenced to death because of their connection with murder.

Now, half a century since Peter Allen and Gwynne Evans became the last two men to be hanged in Britain, this documentary looks back on people sentenced to death in the UK. Fourteen years before Allen and Evans were executed, Londoner Timothy Evans of Notting Hill was sentenced to death for the murder of his wife Beryl and baby daughter Geraldine. Maureen Westlake, Timothy's sister, is still tortured by the pain of injustice to this day.

For the first time, she speaks about the tragedy of her innocent brother going to the gallows for another man's heinous crime. Serial killer John Christie lived in the basement flat of the Evan's home at 10 Rillington Place. Timothy was in a highly emotional state following the deaths of his wife and daughter. An impressionable man, he would admit to anything, and made a false statement admitting to both murders after being coerced by the police.

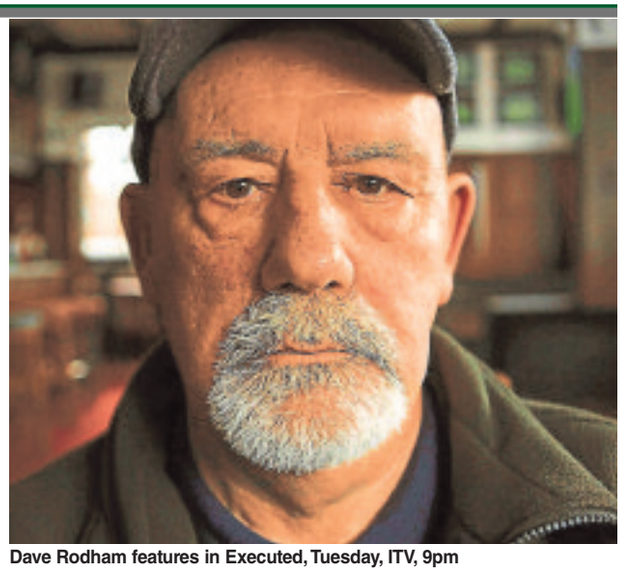
However, after being charged with murder, Timothy retracted his confession and protested his innocence. Maureen, who saw him in prison with her sister Eileen, recalls the meeting: 'And I kept crying. And he said to Eileen 'What does she keep crying for?' and she said, 'You know what she's crying [about] Tim. Beryl and the baby,' and he said, 'I didn't do it, Eileen' He said 'Christie did it.' 'And the last time I saw him, he did look like a 10-year-old. His face was all pale. Waved and he said, 'cheerio.'"

Timothy was eventually granted a Royal Pardon in 1966, 16 years after being executed. Christie's crimes had been uncovered, but Timothy's conviction for murdering his daughter was not expunged, a matter which still plagues Maureen: "I feel that I have gone as far as I can," she explains. "But I think I am going to go to my grave still thinking that this Government have still not cleared him properly. And I still say it's the Government that killed that murdered Tim. Not killed him. Murdered him."

The makers of Executed visit prisons where death sentences were carried out until its abolition. Viewers also get a close look at how the condemned would have spent their last days, and the techniques and procedures used by the executioners.

This film also examines the case of 19-year old Derek Bentley. In 1953, he was hanged for the murder of a policeman, despite the fact he did not fire the fatal shot and had a mental age of 11. It was claimed he had uttered the words 'Let him have it' to incite his partner in crime Christopher Craig to shoot.

The show also features a profile of Ruth Ellis, the 28-year-old who was executed in 1955 for the shooting of her lover David Blakely. She became the last woman to be hanged in Britain, and her story was adapted for acclaimed 1985 movie Dance with a Stranger.


Dave Rodham features in Executed, Tuesday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Kate Adie's Women of World War One
BBC2, 9pm
As a distinguished war reporter, Kate Adie knows a thing or two about being on the frontline. But in this documentary, part of the BBC's ongoing season marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, she's more interested in the women left on the Home Front. She discovers that for many of them, it was a chance to prove they could take on 'men's' jobs, from making shells and driving trams to forming a police force, operating on male patients and playing football in front of tens of thousands of spectators. But while some women experienced their first taste of freedom, it was also a time of bereavement and uncertainty. Adie asks whether the advances of the war continued after 1918, or if peacetime saw women banished back to the kitchen.

TUESDAY
Love Your Garden
ITV, 8pm
The team comes to the aid of Luke Simpson, who lost his leg in an explosion on his last tour of duty in Afghanistan. While rebuilding his life and health with the support of his wife Jackie, the war hero has struggled to make progress on the garden of his dreams. As Alan and the crew work their magic, Frances Tophill reveals the key design elements for a cottage-style plot, Katie Rushworth demonstrates how to make the most out of cut flowers and David Domoney provides hints and tips on maintaining the perfect lawn. Last in the series.

In the Club
BBC1, 9pm
With Rick on the run from the police, Diane struggles to accept the reality of what he has done. She turns to Roanna, the only person she feels she can trust, for some much-needed support - but it looks like the stress of the situation may have brought on her labour as she starts to experience pains that feel much more than Braxton Hicks. Jasmin and Dev have a houseguest, Diane's husband Rick, but when the police turn up the newlyweds are shocked to find out what's really going on. Will they cover for him? Teaching assistant Kim is also feeling the pressure in the aftermath of Rosie's dad's accident. When social services get involved her sense of responsibility is tested as she tries to protect the schoolgirl and her baby. Kay Mellor's drama, starring Jill Halfpenny, Will Mellor and Hermione Norris.

WEDNESDAY
Secrets from the Clink
ITV, 9pm
Part two of two. Strictly Come Dancing judge Len Goodman explores the next chapter in the story of his great-great-grandfather, finding out how years of hard labour took their toll. Actress Michelle Collins is horrified to discover the Dickensian conditions one of her forebears experienced in a debtors' prison after the collapse of his business in tough economic times. Journalist Daisy McAndrew follows the tale of an ancestor who dodged the hangman's noose and was transported to Australia, where her fortunes changed.

Bloomers, Friday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY
Location, Location, Location
Channel 4, 8pm
New series. Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer guide prospective buyers through the complex world of property viewings and agents. They begin in the popular commuter county of Kent, where homes are snapped up quickly due to their proximity to London. Robin and Gemma have recently returned to the UK after three years in Singapore and want a family home to bring up their baby, while in Tunbridge Wells, Gemma and Barney are looking to buy their first place together in a very competitive market.

FRIDAY
Boomers
BBC1, 9pm
New series. Comedy following the ups and downs of three newly retired couples living in the Norfolk resort of Thurnemouth. The friends prepare for the funeral of old friend Jean, although Alan seems more interested that her ex-husband, his old friend Mick, is flying over from Spain for the service. John is wary of the visitor, convinced he has had a thing for his wife Maureen ever since a notorious holiday in Weymouth many moons ago. Meanwhile, Joyce is preoccupied with the thought of her daughter-in-law giving birth any day now. Philip Jackson, Alison Steadman, Russ Abbot, Stephanie Beacham, Paula Wilcox and James Smith star, with a guest appearance by Nigel Planer.

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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

6	9	21	4	■	20	25	20	8	10	20 C	6	8
16	■	1	■	■	12	■	■	22	■	12 O	■	6
22	■	1	12	8	13	10	17	7	■	5	■	5
18	12	21	■	■	■	17	■	■	13	6	13	12
21	■	26	■	2	22	26	21	■	■	8	■	22
■	25	21	26	10	■	21	■	24	6	26	21	18
■	■	■	■	17	■	18	■	6	■	■	■	■
6	1	1	10	4	■	2	■	19	21	15	26	■
26	■	10	■	■	24	21	18	21	■	23	■	5
12	14	21	17	■	■	20	■	■	■	22	15	21
14	■	15	■	6	17	26	10	23	22	21	■	1
10	■	26	■	15	■	■	17	■	■	6	■	10
20	11	6	14	9	10	12	17	■	15	3	10	26

1	14
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13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 N	2 G	3 X	4 M	5 L	6 R	7 O	8 S	9 T	10 F	11 P	12 W	13 I
14 Q	15 E	16 V	17 J	18 A	19 K	20 Y	21 U	22 B	23 H	24 D	25 Z	26 C

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

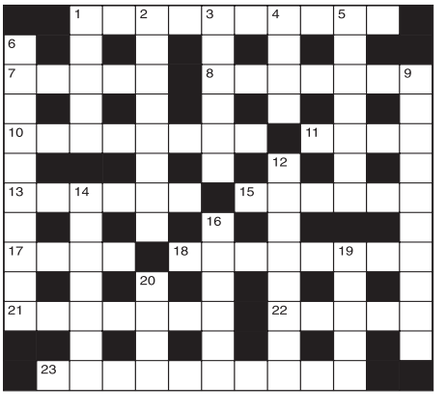
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Allowed the minutes to pass without taking any action (6,4)
7. This will turn a strip of wood to the East (5)
8. Real mix-up before Edward said what happened (7)
10. Going on foot or by car past the street (8)
11. It's nearly a swindle for one who's married in Germany (4)
13. Able to move to Alabama port (6)
15. Slave girl returning to Virginia (6)
17. A complete revolution will produce an emotional shock (4)
18. Meet a hundred on the promenade (8)
21. Getting news of the trial (7)
22. "Tempest" character changing to one in "Lear" adaptation (5)
23. Pledges oneself to carry out a grave act? (10)

Down

1 & 20Dn. It was reed tangled at the river's brink (5-4)
2. Tidy sale arranged in a controlled way (8)
3. Headless fish taking the wrong course (6)
4. In fact, a lengthy account (4)
5. USA term comes to fruition in a different way (7)
6. Finish the game - an evenly contested affair (5,5)
9. Not the conversation of the single-minded? (6,4)
12. Only partially support a member of the football team (4-4)
14. One coming to terms, strikes before this! (7)
16. Tried to find a particular variety, one hears (6)
19. Doesn't include part of the kingdom, it seems (5)
20. See 1 Down



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Help (10)
7. Taut (5)
8. Red wine (7)
10. Recounted (8)
11. Row (4)
13. Really (6)
15. Restraint (6)
17. Every (4)
18. Equatorial (8)
21. Sturdiness (7)
22. Intone (5)
23. Unnecessarily (10)

Down

1. Drilling tool (5)
2. Placed (8)
3. Confidential (6)
4. Parched (4)
5. Terse (7)
6. Parsimony (10)
9. Wavering (10)
12. Patronage (8)
14. Assert (7)
16. Decorated (6)
19. Mad (5)
20. Species (4)

Sudoku

	8		2			1		
5			3	6				2
		7		4	1			
6				3		9	4	
1	4				6		8	5
	3	5						7
			6	5				
7				9	3			6
	6	1			2		7	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	2	7	1	8	6	4	5	9
6	8	1	9	4	5	7	3	2
5	9	4	3	7	2	1	6	8
8	1	3	6	5	4	2	9	7
9	6	2	8	1	7	3	4	5
7	4	5	2	9	3	6	8	1
4	5	8	7	3	1	9	2	6
1	3	6	5	2	9	8	7	4
2	7	9	4	6	8	5	1	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Capital; 7 Gains; 9 Let; 10 Meandered; 12 Jumble-sales; 15 Dumb blondes; 17 Bell-tents; 19 Arm; 21 Clown; 22 Compose. Down: 1 Cameo; 2 Tip; 3 Jade; 4 Pace-maker; 5 Angered; 8 Intern; 11 Furbelows; 13 Bullet; 14 Cure-all; 16 Crash; 18 Toot; 20 Spa. QUICK - Across: 6 Barrier; 7 Annoy; 9 Try; 10 Interests; 12 Reparations; 15 Short-handed; 17 Community; 19 Way; 21 Agent; 22 Passive. Down: 1 Parry; 2 Dry; 3 Keen; 4 Undesired; 5 Content; 8 Retain; 11 Detriment; 13 At hand; 14 Through; 16 Waive; 18 Tray; 20 Ask.

Do you organise events?

Get your event listed on all the important sites and publications including The Guardian Guide, Time Out, The List and local press.

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Visit www.listora.me/2014 to list your next event.

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We are pleased to offer this newly decorated Bedsit. Accomodation comprises good size bed/ sitting room. Seperate kitchen and Seperate Bathroom. Includes brand new cooker. Communal gardens and off road parking.

TUDOR COURT £350 p.c.m

TIVIDALE

Fully refurbished to a high standard, we are offering this semi-detached house in a much sort after location. Accomodation comprises, entrance hall, lounge with bay window, open plan kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, garden at rear. Front driveway and side access. Must be viewed. No upward Chain.

Elm Terrace £119.950

DUDLEY

REDUCED

Fully fitted hair salon in a popular location. To include mirrors, trolleys and colouring trays/ trolleys, Reception Desk and Chairs, Kitchen is at rear and Kitchen and Toilet facilities are shared. Must be viewed to be appreciated. Rental does not include Business Rates.

Bradford Road £370 p.c.m

TIPTON

Mid Terrace Family Home, Ent Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Double Beds, Bathroom, Garden, Off Road Parking. Must be viewed.

Rowland Hill Drive £110,000

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NEW

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Coles Lane, Hill top £350.00 p.c.m

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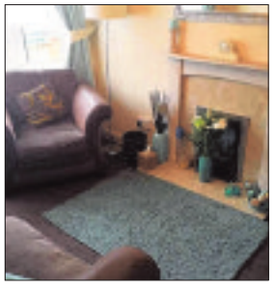
Extended three-bed home has converted loft

AN extended three-bedroomed semi-detached home with a converted loft in Kempson Avenue, West Bromwich, is for sale through Bartrams at £134,950.

It has a porch, entrance hallway with laminate flooring, reception room one with a gas fire in a marble and wood surround, reception room two, a utility with sink and laminate floor, kitchen with gas hob and oven.

For further information contact Bartrams on 0121 6019370 or visit www.bartrams.com



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EPC: TBC

Tipton
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- Two bed ground floor apartment
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- Fitted kitchen
- Master bedroom with en-suite
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£475pcm

EPC: B

Tipton
Bean Drive

- Two bed second floor apartment
- Unfurnished
- Spacious lounge
- Fully fitted kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with bath and shower

£475pcm

EPC: D

West Bromwich
Greets Green Road

- Two bed terraced house
- GCH
- Double glazing
- Modern kitchen
- Bathroom with shower
- Yard storage shed
- Rear garden

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EPC: B

Tipton
Gough Drive

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- Bedroom with fitted wardrobes
- Fitted bath and shower

£425pcm

EPC: D

Tipton
Thunderbolt Way

- One bed ground floor apartment
- Lounge/kitchen
- Double glazed
- Allocated parking

£395pcm

EPC: D

Tipton
Oak Close

- One bed ground floor flat
- Private residential area
- Hall & lounge
- Kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with shower
- Viewing recommended

£350pcm

EPC: D

Sedgley
Crowesbridge Mews

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- Fitted kitchen
- Conservatory
- Bathroom with shower
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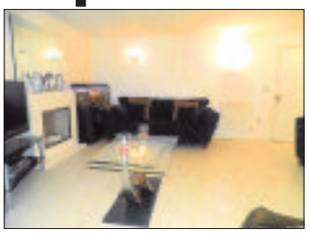
ARLA

This immaculate modern property is well-presented

AN immaculately-presented five-bedroomed modern property in David Harman Drive, West Bromwich lies in a much desired area. It is for sale through Worton Kelly at £329,950.

It has a porch, entrance hall, lounge with French doors to the conservatory and dining room with marble tiled flooring. There is also a kitchen/diner, utility and WC.

The front garden is lawned and the rear garden has a decking area. There is a double garage. For further information contact Worton Kelly on 0121 5885666 or visit the website at www.wortonkelly.com



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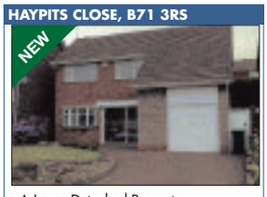


- A Large Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Freehold & Vacant Possession

£239,950

HOPKINS DRIVE, B71 3RR

- A Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Majority Double Glazed
- Garage, Freehold

£224,950

FARLEY ROAD, B70 9AN

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Freehold, Rear Garden

£159,950

KEMPSON AVENUE, B71 1DH

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Converted Loft
- Central Heating

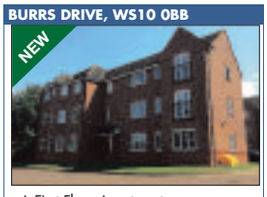
£135,000

MASON STREET, B70 9NL

- A Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Utility Room
- Freehold

£109,950

BURRS DRIVE, WS10 0BB



- A First Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
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£44,500 50% Shared Ownership

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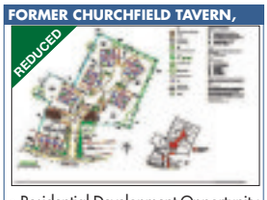

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MALVERN CLOSE, B71 1PP

- A Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Three Reception Rooms
- Freehold

£239,950

SLANEY ROAD, WS2 9AF

ONLINE AUCTION

- A One Bedroom Flat
- Double & Secondary Glazing
- Fitted Kitchen
- Leasehold
- Bathroom
- ONLINE AUCTION

£39,950

HEATH LANE, B71 2BH

- A Detached Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms And Freehold
- Garage At Rear, Freehold
- EPC RATING F

£289,950

HOLLYHEDGE ROAD, B71 3AA

- A Traditional Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Garage, Freehold

£279,950

HOLLYHEDGE ROAD, B71 3AA

- A Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

£254,950

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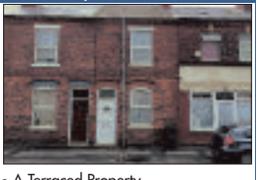
SAMS LANE, B70 7EG



- A Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing And Central Heating
- Freehold

£103,950

CHARLEMONT ROAD, B71 3HX

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Conservatory & Garage At Rear
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

£169,950

ALL SAINTS WAY, B71 1RH

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Paved Driveway, Rear Garden
- Central Heating and Double Glazed
- EPC RATING D

£114,950

RADFORD CLOSE, WS5 4HW

- An End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Freehold, Ideal First Time Buy
- EPC RATING C

£114,950

SHAW ROAD, DY4 7QA

- An End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- No Upward Chain, Freehold
- EPC RATING D

£114,950

CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DY

- An End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating
- EPC RATING E

£99,950

BASSETT ROAD, WS10 0HH

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- Central Heating
- EPC RATING D, Freehold

£94,950

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132 Walsall Road, Stone Cross, West Bromwich, B71 3HP
E-mail:enquires@bartrams.com

Much-improved house overlooking Warley Woods

A MUCH-IMPROVED five double-bedroomed semi-detached property in Lightwoods Hill, Bearwood, Smethwick is ideally situated, overlooking Warley Woods. It has an abundance of period features and is for sale through Robert Oulsnam at £369,950.

It has an entrance vestibule entrance, two reception rooms with wooden flooring, a dining kitchen, a lean-to, ground floor WC, utility, a bathroom and front and rear gardens. The bay-fronted reception room has an ornate feature fireplace.

Contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 4511331 or visitwww.oulsnam.net

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WARLEY WOODS AREA, SMETHWICK

ABBEY ROAD

A chance to acquire a deceptively spacious, well presented, 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property most conveniently situated for Warley Woods, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, majority double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, dining room, attractive lounge, inner hall, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, upstairs bathroom and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating D. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £159,950

OLDBURY

Warwick Road

An attractively presented, deceptive, 3 bedroomed semi detached property occupying a pleasant cul-de-sac position within this popular, convenient neighbourhood, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, majority double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall, delightful through lounge/dining area, kitchen (with oven/hob), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £149,950

OLDBURY

Pumphouse Way

A chance to acquire a deceptively spacious, modern, 3 bedroomed semi detached property occupying a pleasant position upon this popular development, truly requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall (with downstairs w.c off), delightful lounge, super spacious conservatory, fitted kitchen (having oven/hob), 3 bedrooms (master with shower room en-suite), house bathroom, garage and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC rarting D. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £144,950

EDGBASTON

Stanmore Road

A rare opportunity to acquire an extremely spacious, well proportioned home, conveniently situated within this popular neighbourhood, handy for gaining access to Birmingham City Centre, offering flexible living accommodation throughout, requiring internal inspection, currently providing 8 individual rooms (each with fitted kitchenette area), shower room and w.c on the ground floor, bathroom and w.c on the first floor and shower room with w.c on the second floor. Outside is a pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offersa round £325,000

SMETHWICK

Queens Road

A rare opportunity to acquire an extremely spacious, modern, well presented, 4 bedroomed detached property conveniently situated, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall (with downstairs w.c off), delightful lounge (double doors to), dining room, spacious fitted breakfast kitchen (having integral oven/hob and integrated dishwasher and fridge/freezer), 4 EXCELLENT SIZED DOUBLE BEDROOMS (master with shower room en-suite), house bathroom, garage, and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC rating C. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £299,950

TIPTON

Lea Green Avenue, Foxyards

An exceptionally stylish. EXTENDED, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been "transformed" by present vendors over the past 2 years to a stunning specification. Tremendous accommodation includes; enlarged 17 ft reception hall, extended 'L' shape 17 ft living/dining room, enlarged/refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & various integrated appliances. Two double bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a contemporary style white suite with chrome detailing, folding loft ladder to extensive ROOF SPACE (14'1" x 10'4" with two velux sky lights). Shortened garage, block paved foregarden, garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £124,950

OLDBURY

Pinkney Place

A deceptively spacious, well presented 3 bedroomed semi detached property conveniently situated and requiring internal inspection, having double glazing, majority gas radiator heating and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, attractive lounge, breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking, garage/useful store and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £118,000

SMETHWICK

Mansion Crescent

A deceptively spacious, well proportioned 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property, conveniently situated and requiring internal inspection, having double glazing, gas radiator heating and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance vestibule, attractive lounge, breakfast kitchen, rear vestibule area (with downstairs w.c off), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC rating D. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £108,995

OLDBURY

Fisher Road

A well presented, deceptively spacious 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property conveniently situated and requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Attractive lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £94,995

End-terrace house with a refitted kitchen-diner

A LARGER than average three -bedroomed end terrace house in College Close, Wednesbury lies at the head of a sought after cul-de-sac.

It is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £129,950 with no chain.

It has a lounge, a refitted modern dining kitchen incorporating a breakfast bar with space for a table and chairs, three generous bedrooms, modern bathroom with a double shower and furniture, parking and a good sized garden.

Contact Skitts Estate Agents on 0121 5051818 or visit www.skitts.net

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Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton NEW

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• EPC Rating E
£224,950

Francis Ward Close, West Brom NEW

• Modern Semi Detached Extended Home
• Large 40 Foot Reception Room
• Newly Fitted Modern Kitchen
• EPC Rating D
£154,950

Coles Lane, West Bromwich NEW

• Spacious Three Bed Mid Terrace
• Rear Garden With Water Feature
• Traditional Kitchen, Integrated Appliances
• EPC Rating D
£120,000

Chamberlain Close, Tividale NEW

• Spacious Corner Two Bedroom Bungalow
• Easy To Maintain Rear Garden
• Modern Bathroom
• EPC Rating D
£139,950

St Albans Road, Smethwick NEW

• Extended Three Bedroom Terrace Property
• Outhouse Used As Extra Kitchen Space
• Three Double Bedrooms
• EPC Rating C
£109,950

Turner Street, West Bromwich NEW

• Mid Terraced Three Bedroom Property
• Modern Fitted Kitchen
• Downstairs Family Bathroom
• EPC Rating C
£99,950

Philip Victor Rd, H'Worth Wood REDUCED

• Four Bedroom Semi Detached Property
• Rear Garden and Front Garden
• Downstairs W.C and Family Bathroom
• EPC Rating E
£199,950

Edwin Phillips Dr, West Bromwich REDUCED

• Three Bedroom Detached Family Home
• Peaceful Cul De Sac
• Convert Garage into a room
• EPC Rating D
£164,950

Broadwalk, Birmingham City REDUCED

• Modern Two Bedroom Apartment
• Located Off Broad Street
• Perfect for City Living
• EPC Rating B
£149,950

Ashtree Road, Tividale REDUCED

• Modern Two Bed Bungalow
• Large Open Kitchen
• Refurbished Modern Family Bathroom
• EPC Rating E
£148,950

Hilltop, West Bromwich REDUCED

• Four Bedroom Detached Property
• Two Original Tiled Reception Rooms
• Neutral Decor Throughout
• EPC Rating F
£129,950

Renton Road, Wolverhampton REDUCED

• Three Bedroom Semi Detached
• Refurbished to high standard throughout
• Situated in a quite and tranquil area
• EPC Rating D
£127,000

Anchor Crescent, Hockley

• End Terrace Four Bedroom Town House
• Two Spacious Reception Rooms
• Close Proximity Of Birmingham City Centre
• EPC Rating C
£165,000

St Pauls Road,, Smethwick

• Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
• Two Double Bedrooms and One Single
• Close to Smethwick High Street
• EPC Rating D
£85,000

All Saints Way,, West Bromwich

• Modern Three Bedroom Detached Home
• Full Length Garage
• Newly Fitted A Rated Windows
• EPC Rating E
£159,950

Bristnall Hall Road, Oldbury

• Large Three Bed Extended Semi
• Ground Floor Large Extension
• Conservatory
• EPC Rating E
£170,000

Clifton Street,, Bilston

• Modern Four Bedroom Detached Home
• Garage and Car Port
• Lounge Double Doors To Kitchen/Diner
• EPC Rating C
£145,000

Navigation Way, Hockley

• Three Bedroom Semi Detached Townhouse
• Ground Floor Kitchen and Diner
• Garage and Driveway
• EPC Rating D
£155,000

Callaghan Drive, Tividale

• Three Bedroom Mid Townhouse
• Downstairs Shower Room
• Modern Spacious Lounge
• EPC Rating C
£145,950

Broadwalk, Birmingham city

• Two Bedroom Luxury Apartment
• Spacious Lounge
• Allocated Parking
• Perfect for City Living
£850 + Fees Apply●

Macdonald Close, Tividale

• Detached Three Bedroom Residence
• Beautifully Presented Throughout
• Impressive landscaped Rear Garden
• EPC Rating D
£895 + Fees Apply●

The Hub, Stone Street,

• Two Bedroom Apartment
• Secure Allocated Parking
• Double Bedrooms
• Ensuite Shower Room
£550 + Fees Apply●

Bell Street, Tipton

• New build apartment
• Two bedrooms
• Spacious Open Plane Kitchen/Lounge
• Allocated Parking
£475 + Fees Apply●

Harrington Croft, West Bromwich

• Ground Floor Two Bedroom Apartment
• Allocated Parking Space
• Fully Fitted Kitchen
• Bathroom with Shower
£495 + Fees Apply●

Addington Way, Tividale

• Modern Build Two Bedroom House
• Tranquil Area
• Front and Rear Garden
• Driveway
£550 + Fees Apply●

Kyngston Road, West Bromwich

• Modern Three Bedroom Town House
• Garage and Driveway
• Impressive Living Space
• EPC Rating B
£850 + Fees Apply●

Well Street, City Centre

• Brand New Two Bedroom Apartment
• Fully Furnished
• Attention to Detail Fixtures and Fittings
• Top Floor Apartment (3rd)
£795 + Fees Apply●

Inverclyde Road, H'worth Wood

• Attractive Four Bedroom Semi Detached
• Large Kitchen and Diner
• Large Rear Garden
• Large Through Living Room
£695 + Fees Apply●

Lightwoods Road, Bearwood

• Traditional Three Bedroom Terraced House
• Modern Interiors Throughout
• Great Transport Links to The City Centre
• EPC Rating E
£650 + Fees Apply●

Montfort Road, Walsall

• Detached Four Bedroom Home
• Stained glass windows
• Original coal fires
• 1 Acre Garden
£1,750 + Fees Apply●

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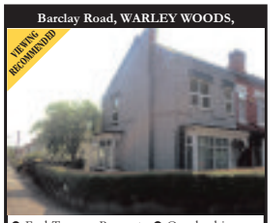
Barclay Road, WARLEY WOODS,
VIEWING RECOMMENDED



● End Terrace Property ● Overlooking Warley Woods ● Two Reception Rooms ● Kitchen ● Shower Room ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Driveway ● No Upward Chain ● Parking

Offers Around £219,950

Abbey Road, BEARWOOD,

● Improved Spacious End Terrace ● Three Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Ground floor Bedroom with en-suite ● Two further Bedrooms ● Driveway ● Garage/Workshop

Offers Around £179,950

Brook Way, EDGBASTON,
NEW

● Modern Family Home ● Reception Room ● Kitchen/Diner ● Three Bedrooms ● Master En-suite ● Family Bathroom ●Garage and Driveway

Offers Around £164,995

Upper St Mary's Road, BEARWOOD,
NEW PRICE

● Mid Terrace Property ● Through Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● No Upward Chain ● Located close to Warley Woods

Offers Around £149,950

Thimblemill Road, BEARWOOD,
VIEWING RECOMMENDED

● Well Maintained Property ● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Loft Room ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase ● Viewing Highly Recommended

Offers Around £124,995

Beakes Road, BEARWOOD,

● Immaculately Maintained Family Home ● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Family Bathroom ● Three Bedrooms ● Driveway ● Viewing Most Highly Recommended

Offers Around £124,950

Romsley Road, OLDBURY,

● Semi Detached ● Reception Room ● Re-Fitted Kitchen Diner ● Three Bedrooms ● Re-Fitted Bathroom ● Garage ● Driveway ● No Upward Chain ● Viewing HIghly Recommended

Offers Around £124,950

Milcote Road, BEARWOOD,

● Mid Terraced Property ● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase / Investment

Offers Around £124,950

Vicarage Road, SMETHWICK,
NEW

● Three Storey Terraced ● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase

Offers Around £122,000

Macdonald Close, TIVIDALE,

● Modern Town House ● Reception Room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Cloakroom ● Two Bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Driveway ● Ideal First Time Purchase

Offers Around £114,950

Eden Grove, WEST BROMWICH,
NEW

● First Floor Apartment ● Reception Room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Bathroom ● Bathroom ● Bedroom plus further study/ small bedroom ● Coomunal Grounds & Parking ● No Upward Chain ● Ideal

Offers Around £64,950

Unett Court, SMETHWICK,
NEW

● First Floor Apartment ● Bedroom/ Lounge ● Kitchen ● Bathroom ● Communal Grounds ● Communal Parking ● No Upward Chain ● Ideal Investment Opportunity

Offers Around £25,000

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Oldbury

Sunnybank Road
* Superior detached family house
* Four bedrooms * Lounge & Dining room * Fitted kitchen/breakfast room
* Fitted cloakroom * Well appointed bathroom & ensuite * Enclosed gardens & large garage*Fitted Carpets *EPC = B
£5000 CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS STAMP DUTY AVAILABLE FOR QUICK SALE OR **PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED**
£269,950

Halesowen

Hagley Road
* Duplex style flat
* Two Bedrooms
* Shower room and en-suite bathroom
* Allocated parking
* No chain
EPC=C

Offers in the region of £149,950

Halesowen

Woodbury Road
* Detached Bungalow
* Two Bedrooms
* Shower Room
* Garage
* Rear and Side Garden
* NO UPWARD CHAIN EPC = E
£149,950

Quinton

Clydesdale Road
* Semi detached house in leafy tree lined road
* Three good-sized bedrooms
* Re-fitted bathroom
* Through living room/dining room
* Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
* Ground floor & first floor w.c.
* Garage * Extensive garden
* No upward chain EPC=D
£234,950

West Bromwich

1 Water Works Cottage
Newton Street
* Semi detached house
* Tastefully improved * 3 bedrooms
* Bathroom with both bath & shower, separate w.c. * Living room
* Fitted kitchen/breakfast room
* Off road parking * Gas boiler heating radiators * Open aspect over neighbouring districts * Internal inspection recommended EPC = D
Offers in the region of £179,950

Oldbury Tividale

Gibbet Hill
* Split level detached house
* Open plan living space
* Fitted cloakroom
* Four bedrooms
* En suite shower room
* Utility
* Double garage
EPC =C
Offers in the region of £339,999

Cradley Heath

Timbertree Crescent
* Semi Detached House
* In need of modernisation and improvement
* Through Living Room
* Kitchen
* Two Bedrooms
* Shower Room EPC = tbc
Offers in the region of £99,950

Oldbury

Walters Road
* 3 Bedroom semi detached
* In need of some upgrading
* 2 Reception Rooms
* Good sized garden
* No Chain
EPC=D

Offers in the region of £134,950

Halesowen

Carters Lane
* Good sized semi detached house
* 3 Bedrooms 2 Reception rooms
* Side Garage
* In need of some upgrading
* Full of potential
EPC=tbc

£205,000

Quinton

Ridgacre Road
* Mid Terraced House
* 3 Bedrooms
* Through living room
* Extension to provide day room/dining room
* Integral garage
* Good sized rear garden
EPC=

£165,000

Halesowen

Bournes Hill
* Two Bedroom House
* Popular Residential Location
* Through Living Room
* In Need Of Some Improvement
* NO CHAIN
EPC = C
£119,950

Dudley

Oakham Road
* Impressive detached extended house
* Hall, fitted cloakroom * Lounge/sitting room, dining room/conservatory
* Fitted kitchen/dayroom, utility room
* Principal bedroom with ensuite, 3 further bedrooms
* House bathroom, garaging for 3 cars, enclosed lovely gardens
* Inspection highly recommended
EPC = E
Offers in the region of £399,950

Smethwick

Thimblemill Road
* Detached Bungalow in need of modernisation
* Of interest to builders/property renovators
* Two bedrooms potential third bedroom
* Lounge
* Kitchen/potential utility room
* Bathroom
* Off road parking
* Gas boiler heating radiators EPC = E
Offers in the region of £115,000

Tipton

LAND FOR SALE

Development Site at Rear of 6 Shrubbery Avenue

An opportunity to acquire a residential development site with planning approval for four detached houses and one detached bungalow in mature residential locality and having an area of 0.69 acres, 0.28 hectares.

Offers in the region of £275,000

Cradley Heath
TO LET

37 Spinners End Drive
* Spacious 2nd floor flat
* Double bedroom with fitted wardrobe
* Large living room * Kitchen with oven and fridge * DG windows & storage heating * Allocated parking space
* Convenient location* Available now!
* EPC=D
Monthly rent of £395+ application fee
£135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Tipton
TO LET

15 Old Port Close
* One bedroom first floor flat
* Modernised & improved * Open plan kitchen/living room * Bathroom with shower * Bedroom with mirrored wardrobe * UPC D/G Windows
* Night storage heating * Car space
* Popular Canal-side location * EPC=C
Monthly rent of £385+ application fee
£135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Bilston Bradley
TO LET

31 Ambleside Close
* modern duplex style house
* one bedroom
* double glazed windows
* fitted kitchen with oven, hob, hood
* night storage heating.
* EPC= D
Monthly rent of £425+ application fee
£135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Quinton
TO LET

42 Wilmington Road
* Three bedroom semi-detached house
* Great location for access to Birmingham
* Gas central heating & DG windows
* Garage * Garden
*AVAILABLE MID AUGUST
* EPC=D
Monthly rent of £650+ application fee
£135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Wednesbury
0121 5067670
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www.goodchilds-uk.com

WEST BROMWICH RIDING CLOSE

- 2 bed Detached Bungalow
- NEW LOW PRICE
- Master Bedroom With Built in Wardrobes
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Garage and Conservatory

£179,950

Jonah Drive TIPTON

- Three Storey
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Family Kitchen/Diner
- Ensuite Shower Room
- Off Road Parking

£140,000

Vicarage Road WEST BROMWICH

- 2 Good House
- Bedrooms
- Private Rear Garden
- Modern Town Road Parking
- Secure Off Conservatory

£95,000

Stanley Road WEDNESBURY

- Semi Detached
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Cul-De-Sac
- Rear Garden
- NO CHAIN !

£95,000

Oak Lane West Bromwich

- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Double Glazing

£94,999

Mark Road

- Semi Detached
- Two Bedrooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Open Dining Area
- Double Glazing
- Gas Centra Heating

Mark Road WEDNESBURY

- Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing

£90,000

Vicarage Road WEDNESBURY

- Semi-Detacfhed
- Three Storey
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Family Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Garden

£89,995

Challenge Goodchilds to sell your property in 43 days OR LESS!

On your marks, get set, sold in 43 DAYS!

The ever-changing property market is always generating news. Some is good. Some is bad. But there is some that is simply EXCITING!

Multi-award-winning Goodchilds, with its extensive network of 16 branches across the region, is continuing to buck all the trends, selling property quickly, efficiently and for a very good price.

Part of this success is down to Goodchilds' 90 Day Challenge, which does exactly what it says. 90 days is okay, you might think, but compare it to the regions average time-on-the-market of 226 days (Feb 2014. Source home.co.uk) and 90 starts to sound far better than okay – it's bordering on brilliant.

But, just bucking trends is not enough for Goodchilds, smashing them is far more fun.

Which is why Goodchilds has transformed it's already spectacular 90 Day Challenge into the bordering-on-lunatic 43 Day Challenge! That's 183 days quicker than the region's average. Or, put another way, just over SIX MONTHS. Think about it! What could you do in six months? You could completely redecorate and settle into a lovely new house in six months. And do the garden! Easily. That's the Goodchilds difference.

So, how does Goodchilds achieve this? David Warke, MD of Goodchilds has the answer: "Three reasons. The best systems, the best and most motivated people and a region-wide network of 16 branches that works as a single unit to create a huge catchment of potential buyers."

But, once again, in Goodchilds' familiar style, good is simply not good enough.

"These are very exciting times for us." David Warke continues, "We're determined to capitalize on our success and bring the Goodchilds service to as many of the region's residents as possible. Two new branches are about to open and more are on the way. Everyone deserves to experience the Goodchilds difference."

What does this mean for its customers? More great people working across an even greater area to sell properties more quickly at excellent prices.

It's a superb proposition and really does stand Goodchilds out as the region's leading estate agent.

If you're thinking of selling your property and would like the sheer power of Goodchilds' network and people working for you, call today on 01902 212342.

Time on the market (ToM)

ToM is exactly what it sounds like – the time it takes to sell a property at a given time.

According to respected online resource home.co.uk, the average ToM for all properties in the West Midlands was 226 days in February 2014 (Source: home.co.uk). This is slightly less than the previous month, but this figure has been more-or-less the same for some time now.

Challenge us today and you could be moving in 43 days 01902 212342

We're very proud to have won awards EVERY year since 2009!

Goodchilds Estate Agents & Lettings

Booth Street WEDNESBURY

- TERRACED PROPERTY
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FULLY FITTED KITCHEN
- REAR GARDEN

£89,995

Watville Road BIRMINGHAM

- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing

£89,950

Franchise Gardens WEDNESBURY

- Three Bedrooms
- Mid Terrace
- Spacious Lounge
- Upstairs Family Bathroom
- Downstairs W.C.
- No Upward Chain

£80,000

Bagnalls Street WEST BROMWICH

- Terrace House
- Three Bedrooms
- One Reception room
- Family Bathroom
- Sunroon

£79.950

BAGNALLS WHARF WEDNESBURY

- Second Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Parking Areas
- Open Kitchen

£77,500

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MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2014 — THE SUNDAY TIMES

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www.goodchilds-uk.com

Blockall
Darlaston

- 5 Bedroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Sun Room
- Two Garages
- Heated Swimming Pool
- No Chain

£300,000

Thetford Close
Tipton

- Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Car Port
- Off Road Parking

£200,000

Brookfield Way
TIPTON

- Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception rooms
- Downstairs W/C
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road parking
- Garage

£179,995

Jonah Drive
TIPTON

- Three Storey
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Family Kitchen/Diner
- Ensuite Shower Room

£140,000

Broadwaters Road
WEDNESBURY

- Semi-Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

£139,950

Old Park Road
WEDNESBURY

• Semi Detached House• Four Bedrooms• Open Plan • Lounge Diner• Fully Fitted Kitchen• Viewing Essential

£128,000

Wills Avenue
WEST BROMWICH

- END TERRACED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- GARAGE
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C.

£125,000

Horseley Heath
TIPTON

•Three bedroom •Semi detached house•Two reception rooms•Front and rear gardens•Parking & detached garage•Viewings essential

£125,000

Wolverhampton
Lynton Avenue

two reception rooms
downstairs wet-room
Garage
Off road parking
Gas central heating

£124,950

Durham Road
WEDNESBURY

• Extended Semi Detached House• Three Bedrooms• Two Reception Rooms• Family Bathroom & Wetroom• Large Drive

£120,000

Upper Church Lane
TIPTON

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- EXTENSIVE Drive
- Garage
- Downstairs WC

£117,000

St Helens Avenue
TIPTON

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Garage & Drive

£115,000

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BEECH ROAD
WEDNESBURY

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Ensuite
- No Chain !!
- Double Glazing

115000

Cornwall Close

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden

£115,000

Regent Road
BIRMINGHAM

- Mid - Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing

£111,950

QUEEN STREET
WEDNESBURY

• Semi Detached• Three Bedrooms• Two Reception Rooms• Fully Fitted Kitchen• Family Bathroom• Secure Rear Garden• Fitted Double Glazing• Gas Centtral Heating• No Chain

£104,950

St Georges Close
DARLASTON

- Three Bedroom
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom
- No Chain

£104,950

Tew Park Road
BIRMINGHAM

- Mid - Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception rooms
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Fully Fitted Kitchen

£100,000

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APEX ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Let Through One Of Sandwell's Oldest Letting Agent!

WEST BROMWICH
CAMBRIDGE STREET
APPLICATION IN
FOR SALE 3 bedroom property, 2 reception rooms, central heated and double glazed, bathroom with overhead shower, enclosed rear garden.
£109,500 Offers pcm

WEST BROMWICH
RAYFORD DRIVE
SALE
Spacious 3 bedroom semi-detached property, central heated and double glazed, first floor bathroom. Off road parking, garage. Must be viewed
£134,950 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
HALLAM STREET
SALE
Large 3 bedroom property, through lounge, central heated and double glazed. large kitchen, downstairs bathroom and upstairs w.c. new kitchen and bathroom. Prime location
£125,000 pcm

TIPTON
ST.MARTINS DRIVE
LET
3 bedroom semi-detached modern property, lounge, kitchen, first floor bathroom. central heated and dg. private drive and garage. Available unfurnished.
£595 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
BEACONSVIEW RD
Ground floor one bedroom flat, newly refurbished, spacious lounge. ch and double glazed. communial carpark.
£360 pcm

WOLVERHAMPTON
DUBERVILLE ROAD
3 bedroom property, 2 reception rooms, central heated and double glazed, first floor bathroom, off road parking.
£550 pcm

DUDLEY
QUEEN CROSS
SALE
Good investment 2 commercial units, freehold for sale, Fish and chip shop, grocery store with a 5 bed flat above, currently all let out with good revenue stream.
offers £220,000 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
ADELAIDE AVENUE
APPLICATION IN
Fully refurbished 3 bedroom property, spacious through lounge, ch and dg. first floor bathroom. detached garge, car port. Must be Viewed.
£124,995 ONO pcm

TIPTON
SIMEON BISSELL CLOSE
NEW
Modern 3 bed property, spacious lounge with dining space, central heated and double glazed. first floor bathroom and master bedroom with ensuite. private drive and garage.
£599 pcm

TIPTON
HIGHFIELD ROAD
NEW
3 bedroom newly refurbished semi detached property, spacious lounge, new kitchen, downstairs w.c and first floor bathroom, central heated and double glazed.off road parking.
£525 pcm

WOLVERHAMPTON
D'URBERVILLE ROAD
Newly refurbished 2 bed ground floor flat, central heated and double glazed, off road parking and rear garden. Must be viewed to be appreciated.
£525 pcm

WILLENHALL
NOTTINGHAM DRIVE
NEW
Selection of 2 and 3 bedroom flats, with large rection rooms and bedrooms, central heated and double glazed. unfurnished. Off road parking. AVAILABLE TO DHSS
From £100 pw pcm

WEST BROWICH
EUROPA AVENUE
LET
Spacious 4 bedroom property in the sandwell valley area, Reception room, dining area, spacious kitchen, first floor bathroom. Off road parking. Unfurnished
£750 pcm

DUDLEY
SOUTHGATE WAY
LET
Modern 2 bedroom aprtment, open plan kitchen. fitted bathroom. economy heating and double glazed through out. designated parking. Available unfurnished. Must be viewed
£495 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
JEFFERSON PLACE
LET
Modern ground floor apartment situated near sandwell hospital off Grafton road, spacious open plan kitchen and lounge, 1 bedroom, fitted bathroom. secure allocated parking.
£430 pcm

WEDNESBURY
ELWELL STREET
LET
First floor one bedroom flat, spacious lounge, ch and Dg, Must be viewed. Modernised.
£400 pcm

7 Bull Street, West Bromwich, B70 6EU
Tel: (0121) 532 2700 email: enquiry.support@apexproperties.co.uk

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Robert Oulsnam and Company
oulsnam
Incorporating Laing & Co

NEW
Abbey Road, Bearwood
- Most Attractive Traditional Terrace
- Through Lounge
- Three Bedrooms
- Variety of Period Features
- Spacious Breakfast Kitchen
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £144,950

NEW
Coopers Lane, Smethwick
- Charming End Terrace Property
- Convenient Location For Schools/Parks/Amenities
- Modern Style Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms
- EP Rating D
- Two Reception Rooms

Offers in the region of £102,500

NEW PRICE
Eldon Road, Edgbaston
- FOR SALE BY MODERN METHOD OF AUCTION
- Two Reception Rooms
- Traditional Mid Terrace Property
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating D
- Three Bedrooms

Starting Bid £120,000

NEW
Pargeter Road, Bearwood
- A Deceptively Spacious Mid Terrace
- Upstairs Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Some Period Features
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £144,950

NEW
Thimblemill Road, Smethwick
- A Stunning Semi-Detached
- Off Road Parking
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Modern Bathroom
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £160,000

NEW PRICE
Rawlings Road, Bearwood
- Deceptively Spacious Terrace
- Upstairs Bathroom & GF Wet Room
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Modern Style Breakfast Kitchen
- EP Rating F

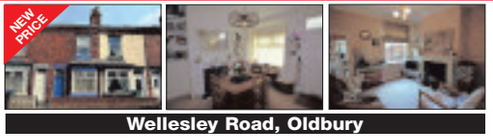
Offers in the region of £139,950

NEW
Bishopton Road, Bearwood
- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Close to Lightwoods Park
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £172,495

NEW
Three Shires Oak Road, Bearwood
- Well Presented Traditional Terrace
- Great Investment Opportunity
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Two Double Bedrooms
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £104,950


NEW PRICE
Wellesley Road, Oldbury
- Most Attractive Traditional Terrace
- Period Features
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Must be Viewed!
- Modern Style Bathroom
- EP Rating D

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- Refitted kitchen and bathroom
- Garage and communal gardens
- FULL INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £84,950

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104 HAGLEY ROAD WEST, OLDBURY, B67 5EZ

78 GRAFTON ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 8BJ

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- Spacious lounge and kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking and communal gardens
- Designated for over 60s (55+ with a disability)
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £55,000

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REDUCED

59 NORMAN AVENUE, QUINTON

- Gas centrally heated and double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Hall and downstairs cloakroom
- Extended through lounge/dining room
- Refitted and extended kitchen
- Garage to the rear
- Off-street parking to the front
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £209,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

267 WEST BOULEVARD, QUINTON

- Double glazed, centrally heated and alarmed
- FOUR bedrooms and washroom/WC to the first floor
- Hall, spacious inter-communicating lounge/dining room, extended kitchen and bathroom downstairs
- Gardens with off-street parking for 4/5 cars
- Easy reach Harborne village, Birmingham University and QE Hospital
- Some general upgrading required
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £149950

Viewing Bearwood Office

11 THE OVAL, SMETHWICK

- Freehold semi-detached property
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedroom and bathroom
- Hall, lounge and kitchen
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- Off-street parking to the front
- In need of some cosmetic improvement
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £112500

Viewings Bearwood Office

7 WARLEY HALL ROAD : OLDBURY

- Extended semi-detached
- 3 bedrooms
- Good size conservatory
- INTERNAL INSPECTION
- EPC : D

OFFERS BASED ON £189,950

Viewing : Bearwood Office

43 OAK ROAD, OLDBURY

- Extended link detached
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Superbly presented bathroom with Jacuzzi bath
- Impressive hallway
- Through lounge/dining room
- Additional sitting room & conservatory
- Side garage/store & off-street parking
- Neatly laid out rear garden
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

22 DOROTHY ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Hall, lounge and kitchen/breakfast room
- Off-street parking for two cars
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £119,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

3 REAR OF 31 EVA ROAD, WINSON

- Pedestrian walkway off Eva Road
- Easy access Birmingham city centre
- Centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms & fully tiled bathroom
- Lounge and kitchen/breakfast room
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £74,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

153 MONTAGUE ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Recently refurbished end terraced property
- Gas centrally heated
- Part PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen and refitted bathroom
- Lawned side garden with added potential for off-road parking
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : D
- NO CHAIN

OFFERS BASED ON £129,500

Viewings Bearwood Office

13 JACMAR CRESCENT, SMETHWICK

- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Gas centrally heated
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Hall, through lounge/dining room & kitchen
- Side garage
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £142,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

29 HERBERT ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms, master having en-suite shower room
- Family bathroom
- Impressive vestibule & hall with original minton tiled floors
- Lounge and sitting room
- Kitchen and conservatory
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

REDUCED

50 PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Close to Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods
- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Gas centrally heated
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom and separate cloakroom
- Vestibule & hall with original minton tiled floor
- Through lounge/dining room
- Verandah
- Delightful garden to the rear
- ENERGY RATING : E
- NO CHAIN
- ALL SERIOUS OFFERS CONSIDERED

OFFERS BASED ON £174,500

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NEW

8 CONWAY AVENUE, OLDBURY

- Immaculate and superbly presented
- Gas centrally heated and double glazed
- Three bedrooms & fully tiled refitted bathroom with shower
- Hall, lounge, impressive 17ft dining/kitchen and laundry/utility room
- Off-street parking for two/three cars
- Neat laid out gardens
- Pleasant location at head of residential cul-de-sac
- INTERNAL INSPECTION ESSENTIAL
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £159,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

25 HERBERT ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Traditional freehold terraced villa
- Gas centrally heated family accommodation
- Exceptionally convenient situation
- 3 bedrooms, dressing room and bathroom to first floor
- Hall, inter-communicating lounge/dining room
- Good size kitchen and laundry/utility room
- Many original features
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

NEW

6 SHERWOOD ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Refurbished & extended mid-terraced property
- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Superbly presented refitted bathroom with free-standing bath and individual shower
- Two reception rooms, dining room and excellent refitted kitchen
- Delightful garden to the rear with stone block store house
- INTERNAL INSPECTION NOT TO BE MISSED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £184,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

101 MILCOTE ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Prime location with easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Mostly PVC double glazed
- Gas centrally heated
- Two double bedrooms and bathroom
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen and utility
- Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- INTERNAL INSPECTION A MUST

OFFERS BASED ON £167,950

Viewing Bearwood

106 HAGLEY ROAD WEST, OLDBURY

- Exceptionally convenient location with easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Centrally heated, double glazed and alarmed
- Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods within easy reach
- Two double bedrooms & bathroom with shower
- Two pleasant reception rooms & refitted kitchen
- Ideal first time purchasers
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £106,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

REDUCED

57 PRYOR ROAD, OLDBURY

- Easy to Birmingham city centre
- Gas centrally heated
- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Lounge, dining room and kitchen
- Potential for off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS BASED ON £120,950

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, August 7, 2014

Bluemotion technology now added to VW vans

By John Griffiths

Hard-pressed businesses looking to drive down their costs will no doubt welcome Volkswagen's decision to share its fuel-saving Bluemotion technology with its commercial vehicle range.

The new model is easily the most frugal of the Transporter range, and indeed among the best in this class of van, with an official average consumption of almost 49mpg.

It has the same efficient 2.0 litre turbo diesel engine as its stablemates – in this case rated at 114PS – but the whole vehicle is lighter, more aerodynamic, it's fitted with low rolling resistance tyres, cruise control, and automatic stop/start.

There's also an energy recuperation system which uses the van's momentum under braking to run the alternator, so the engine has less work to do.

It's the first time VW has produced a full-blown Bluemotion model, although others in the range have already benefitted from some aspects of the technology which has been such a hit in the company's passenger car range.

The £24,071 (including VAT) short wheelbase model loses nothing in terms of performance compared to its stablemate with the same 114PS engine plus it's still capable of carrying two Euro pallets – and with a greater payload of 871kg.

For the driver the Transporter Bluemotion's cab is a good place to be. It comes with three large, hard-wearing seats – the driver gets height, reach and lumbar adjustment – and a high 'command' driving position with large door mirrors.

The power-assisted steering and other controls are light, with the short-throw gearstick mounted high on the dash for easy reach.

The driver also has the cruise control system to help save fuel (and possibly your licence), a hill-hold assist system, electrically heated and adjustable mirrors, a radio with CD player, electric windows and heat reflective glass.

Airbags

There are plenty of storage compartments in the cab, and a part-lined load bay which helps to reduce body noise and reverberations from the interior.

Safety systems include driver and passenger airbags, stability control, emergency brake assist and brake force distribution systems.

The engine has an impressive 250Nm of torque available from just 1,500 revs, making progress seem easy and, in van terms, relatively lively despite its impressive economy.

It takes 14.8 seconds to reach 62mph from a standing start.

The Transporter has a wide opening, sliding side door on the left (kerb) side which is almost half the length of the cargo bay, and a pair of rear doors, to access the interior, which is 2,570mm long, 1,692mm wide and 1,410mm high.

The load floor is flat for easy loading, and the cargo area has two interior lights.

The test vehicle was fitted with a few options including a touchscreen SatNav system with upgraded radio at a cost of £565 (ex VAT), and Bluetooth connectivity which is a £245 option. Parking sensors added another £200.

So far, the short wheelbase panel van is the only member of the Transporter range to get the full Bluemotion treatment.

Transporters all come with a 2.0 litre turbo diesel engine, but with power ratings of 84, 102, 114, 140 and 180Ps. The panel vans are also available in long wheelbase, plus high and medium roof options.

Other vehicles in the range include the Kombi, for carrying a work crew and their cargo, and the window van capable of carrying up to eight passengers with a choice of configurations.

The Shuttle is a people carrier, again designed for eight passengers but with more style and comfort.

There are also four-wheel drive models fitted with the more powerful engines in the range.

TESTED

VW Transporter Bluemotion SWB

Engine: 2.0 litre turbo diesel with 114Ps of power and 250Nm of torque driving the front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox.

Performance: 0 to 62mph in 14.8 secs, max 102mph.

Economy: urban 40.9mpg, country 54.3mpg, average 48.7mpg. CO2 emissions 153gkm.

Cargo area: 2,570mm x 1,692mm x 1,410mm.

Payload: 871kg.

Warranty: Three years/100,000 miles: three years paint, 12 years body protection.

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in mpg (l/100km): Urban 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 85.6 (3.3), Combined 78.5 (3.6). CO_2 emissions: 94 g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes & may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 On The Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** New retail Civic registered from 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Civic Black Special Edition Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Example shown based on Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 total cash price (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £0 (0%) deposit, £408.29 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £7,761.73 annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 6p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **The 5 Year Care Package includes: Servicing:** All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes fi rst. **Warranty:** In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes fi rst. **Roadside Assist:** In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary Hondacare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes fi rst. **The 5 Year Care Package:** The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is **being offered for £555 including VAT** (usual value £1,845 including VAT, resulting in a £1,290 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.

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*Offer subject to availability at participating Retailers only. Conditional sale. Finance subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Finance by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer includes Retailer Contribution. Customer deposit shown after deduction of Retailer Contribution. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1- 24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offer available on orders or registrations between 2 July and 1 October. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

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The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Model shown: Swift SZ4 available from £12,199. *VAT free offer on Swift range: Swift 1.2 SZ2 3dr available from £8,999, including a customer saving of £1,800 to Swift 1.2 SZ4 5dr 4x4 available at £13,699 including customer saving of £2,740 which is equivalent to the VAT amount of the previous on the road price of £10,799 (SZ2 3dr) and £16,439 (SZ4 5dr 4x4). VAT equivalent reduction is not available on vehicle options or accessories. VAT Free offer excludes Swift Sport. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st July 2014 to 30th September 2014 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. Swift specifications and prices refer to the 2014 facelift model.

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WANTED Good quality, low mileage motorcycles. Cash on collection. Call 01902 312939 / 07748 150779.

vehicle hire

SCB CAR HIRE
From £10 per day
0800 533 5139
0121 526 4666
07795 535 007

BEST PRICE CAR + VAN HIRE Daily,Weekly, Call Practical 0121 556 1315 practical.co.uk

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best cash price for unwanted cars/vans. Call 01902 597035 / 07903 549849.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

SCRAPCARBUYERS.CO.UK
TOP PRICES PAID
0800 533 5139
0121 526 4666
07795 535 007

BJ CARS PAYS MORE
www.bjcars.co.uk
Scrap it legally, NO fines, NO comebacks.
All scrap cars/vans wanted
Best Prices!
01902 498542
01902 658792 EVE

1st CHOICE
TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS!
VANS! CAMPERS! MOT FAILURES!
ANYTHING CONSIDERED
FREE COLLECTION
WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS
01902 562853
07977 499516
07895 346811- 24 hrs

A B SPARES
Pays More
All Scrap Cars & Vans Wanted
Anything Considered
Free Collection
Scrap It Legally COD. Given Instant Payment.
01902 493110 / 0121 525 5813 daytime
01902 659775 evenings

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR
ALL SCRAP CARS,
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

spares & accessories

spares/parts

BASTABLES CAR SPARES Batteries, 3 yr warrenty. Antifreeze/coolant. All seasons screenwash. 0121 5522851 / 0121 5448858

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

ALAN DAVID POYNER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 202 Bristnall Hall Road Oldbury West Midlands B68 9NJ, who died on 03/02/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 17/10/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
Sandra Buffam
SILKS SOLICITORS LIMITED
27 Birmingham Street Oldbury
West Midlands B69 4DY T416578

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Speed Cushions/Tables Consultation

The council proposes to construct speed tables and speed cushions to reduce the speed of vehicles at the following locations:

Location: length(m); width(m); height(mm); measure

Harvest Road, outside properties 19-21: 2.5; 6.7; 75; cushions

Harvest Road junction with Fallowfield Road, outside properties 62-64 Harvest Road: 22.0; 7.5; 65; table

Harvest Road junction with Dudhill Road, outside properties 5-17 Harvest Field; 22.0; 7.5; 65; table

Full details may be examined at: Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE during normal office hours and at www.sandwell.gov.uk

Objections in writing by 29/08/14, to Mr Irfan Choudry, Highways, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE, email: highways@sandwell.gov.uk

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.

This is a major application.

DC/14/57281	Ms Fiona Fell Trident Housing Association Ltd	Priest House & Car Park 14 Priest Street Cradley Heath B64 6JN	Proposed conversion of existing office building into 6 No. 1bed and 9 No. 2 bed apartments and 32 car parking spaces.

Proposed conversion of existing office building into 6 No. 1bed and 9 No. 2 bed apartments and 32 car parking spaces.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.

Mr Nick Bubalo Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10 Personals

personal

GENUINE MAN 45

With a nice down to earth loving, caring personality, wishes to meet a genuine lady 25/40 for everlasting relationship.
All letters answered.
Box Number P19369 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE MAN 50

With a nice down to earth loving, and caring personality, wishes to meet a genuine lady 40/50 for holidays, days out etc. Photo appreciated, all letters answered.
Box Number P19385 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE LADY

w.l.t.m a genuine honest down to earth gentleman for days holidays .
Genuine replies only.
Box Number P19372 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

KIND CARING GENTLEMAN

76 years. Seeks same in lady, similar age, for Friendship and Companionship, maybe more. Prefer local in Wednesbury area but not essential. Photo would be appreciated! I will send one back. Lot's of love to you. I will answer all replies ok.
Box Number P19368 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

★★★

MALE 60
5ft 8ins MEDIUM BUILD

Honest. Outgoing. N/S. Car and house owner. Enjoys most things in life. WLTM Lady 56-62 to share life with.
Phone number required in reply if possible please.
Box Number P19384 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

★★★

PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMAN 55

N/S. GSOH. WLTM. Lady 40-55.
Caring. Enjoys country walks. Meals out. Friendship and maybe more.
Aldridge/Walsall area.
Box Number P19379 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

★★★

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

BUY LOCAL
SELL LOCAL
01902 317878

ClassifiedAds

Local Specialists

Aerials

Wayne Tipper
TV aerial and satellite engineer

- TV aerials
- Satellite dishes
- TV wall mounting
- Telephone extensions
- CCTV cameras
- Repairs and advice etc...

24 years experience
Senior citizen discount

For a FREE QUOTE please call Wayne on:
0121 445 0318 or 07877 934 027

J. J. Digital Aerials
Installation of Digital, Freeview & Satellite
WE GUARANTEE TO BEAT ANY LIKE FOR LIKE QUOTE
AERIALS £55 - SATELLITE £65
SELF EMPLOYED EXPERT WHO YOU CAN TRUST
Friendly, reliable service
0121 5306785/ 07919 597626

LUKES AERIALS
SANDWELL 0121 445 1382 Lukes Mobile:07864 590543
DIGITAL AERIAL Fitted from £49
TUNING & SET UP TV from £20
REPAIRS & REMOVE AERIAL from £29
(SPECIAL OFFER) Aerial into 2 rooms £80
(SPECIAL OFFER) Aerial into 3 rooms £99
(SPECIAL OFFER) Aerial into 4 rooms £120
FREE QUOTATION *FREE ADVICE* *BEST PRICES*

Appliance Repairs

PD D Domestic
Specialising in repairs of washing machines, dishwashers, gas & electric cookers, hobs, microwaves, fridge freezers and cooker hoods etc.

"FREE ESTIMATES"
You won't find anywhere cheaper!
0121 532 5965/
07825 148338
pddomestics@hotmail.co.uk

Carpets

ABLE & BROMLEY CARPETS/BEDS
FURNITURE/RUGS/VINYLS & LAMINATES
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE

DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT? OR ANYONE WHO JUST NEEDS EXTRA HELP!
WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.
Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets
'FREE OF CHARGE'
Shave doors. Bed assemble and disposal.
PLUS FREE FITTING ON SELECTED RANGES. Family run Est since 1978
Click on-line for many great prices
Terms and conditions apply. www.ablecarpets.co.uk
Free quotes and planning

80/20 Wool Twists	Wiltons	Bleach cleanable carpets	Mega Ceep Saxony
Was £22 sq yd Now Only £8.99 sq yd	From Only £8.99 sq yd	from £4.99	£12.99 sq mt.
Special Offer only 6 left. Double memory beds plus free matching headboard RRP £799 Now only £250	Divan Beds Single from £96 Double from £160	Quality Double Memory Foam bed RRP Was £899 Now 299	Luxury Supreme Double bed RRP £899 Now £360

OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00
Tipton/Wednesbury/Walsall
Kerrnon Bromley 0121 530 3633
West Bromwich/Oldbury/Great Barr/Smethwick
FREEPHONE 0800 0853747
Wton/Sedgley/Gornal/Dudley
Adrian Bromley 01902 880541
OPEN SUNDAYS 10 - 3 PM
UP TO 75% OFF
We will beat your BIG Superstores

Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD

Carpet & Upholstery cleaning

CLEANCARE
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners
Fully Trained, Insured
C.R.B. Registered Staff
Friendly Service
For Free Quotes
Tel: 0121 270 1998
07816 817744

Blinds & Curtains

BARGAIN BLINDS
6 VERTICAL BLINDS FROM £169
WE GUARANTEE TO BEAT ANY 'LIKE FOR LIKE' QUOTE
FULL RANGE OF BLINDS AVAILABLE
FREE Quote FREE Fitting
FREE Child Safety Features
Free Phone 0800 0347 111
Sandwell - www.ukbargainblinds.co.uk

Blinds4Less
Leaving a good impression!
Choose From a fantastic range!
-Pleated -Venetians
-Roman -Curtains
-Vertical -Awnings
-Roller -Shutters
- 10% off thermally efficient Shutters and outdoor awnings!
- 40% off Conservatory roof blinds!
Give us a try before you buy!
Contact us on
01384 886162 / 01902 500204
07989 588728
Blinds4lessdirect.com

Designa Blinds
Vertical Blind Specialist
Tel: 07976 045 530
Tel: 0121 293 7119
- Child Safe - Cordless Systems
- Full Range of Fabrics
- Free Measure & Quote
- Fast Reliable Service
- Competitive Pricing

Fabrics only Service available

Showrooms at: West Bromwich Indoor Market, Bearwood Indoor Market, Northfield Indoor Market
Factory Showroom: Wolverhampton Road South B32 2AY

Conservatories from £275
Average Semi £300

Builders

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE MIDLANDS
AJM BUILDING & MAINTENANCE
• BRICKWORK • ROOFING • PATIOS • FENCING
• FASCIAS/GUTTERING • CONVERSIONS • EXTENSIONS • CHIMNEY SPECIALIST
0121 530 1351 / 07804 493140

HUNTER BUILD
- Kitchen and Bathroom Specialist
- UPVC Windows and Doors
- Fascia and Soffits
- Plastering and Tiling
- Complete House Renovations
- Family Run Business

For quote
07752 506695
0121 556 7203

Electricians

GOLDIE ELECTRICAL SERVICES
- Full/Part Rewires
- Extra Lights and Sockets
- Security Lighting
- Garden Electrics
- All electrical repairs

FREE Quotes / No call out charge
35 years experience
Tel: 0121-553 7344
Mobile: 07866 804907

Electricians

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN
EE ELLIOTT ELECTRICAL
- Fuseboard upgrades
- Full / part rewires
- Smoke / burglar alarms
- Testing and certificates
- Fully insured
- 10 year wiring guarantee
- PART P REGISTERED

TRUST MARK
Electrical Safety Register
Call Mark 07812 158759
0121 218 0010
www.elliott-electrical.com

Whitehouse Electrical & Sons
Professional and reliable service
- Complete Rewires
- Shower Installations
- Testing - Inspection
- Fuseboard Upgrades
- Domestic - Commercial
- Security Alarms
- Landlord Certs

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Florence Road, Tipton, DY4 0NR
www.whitehouseelectricalsons.co.uk
ELECSA Registered Company EPP31221
Part P Approved Installer

MB electric
All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800
For a high quality local service call :
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07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

ELECTRICIAN
Fully guaranteed work
Honest reliable service
ANT ELECTRIC
Ring Tony or Julie on
0121 422 3549
07974 428 603
'No Job Too Small'

Decorating

M&B PAINTING & DECORATORS
Over 25 years experience
NO JOB TOO SMALL
All quotes include white paint for woodwork and ceilings
For a FREE friendly quote
Call Mick on 07896054108 or Bart on 07825568581

COLOURZONE
- Interior and exterior painting and decorating
- Special rates for OAPs
- 25 years experience
- Fully insured

0121 434 5679
07507 070786

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1 Call us on... 01902 319590
2 E-mail us at... lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk
3 Post to... Lisa Dandy, Sandwell Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

Local Specialists

Double Glazing

It's Not Magic! It's Simply...
WINDOW WIZARD
Over 10 years experience
Supplied & Fitted - All New Window, Doors & Conservatories
Double Glazing Repair Specialist
- Locksmiths (24hr) • Broken Hinges
- Handles • Misted Unit • Rubber Seals
- CONSERVATORY LEAKS
- Guttering and Fascias
- Building and Property maintenance
- Landlords/Commercial work undertaken

20% OFF ALL WORK IN AUGUST
REPLACE YOUR WINDOWS TO BE MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND SAVE £ £ £'s!
MISTED UNITS FROM £20
20% OFF All Work for O.A.P's
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Call Sue on 0121 422 9655
or Dave on 07944 097469
www.window-wizard.co.uk

Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS
Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Paths • Patios
Slabbing • Red Tarmac
Car Parks
5 Year Guarantee On All Work
Free Quotations and Advice
Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190
www.discountdriveways.co.uk

Gardening

Sandwell Gardeners
- Soft Landscaping
- Grass cutting
- Hedge cutting
- General tidying
- Weeding / pruning / fence painting
- Patio jet washing service
- All aspects of gardening

Speacial rates for OAP's & low Incomes
No job too small
FREE QUOTATIONS
Call 07908012267

C&S Landscapes
OAP Discounts Available
TURF-SUPPLIED & LAID
- Fencing • Turfing
- Slabbing
- Ornamental Gravel
- Hedges Trimmed
- Trees Pruned
- Gardens Cleared

ALL AREAS COVERED
No Job Too Small
FREE ESTIMATES
Tel: 0121 531 6295 or 07866 623841

Gardening

Holly's Landscape Services
The Name to trust
✔ Block Paving ✔ Fencing ✔ Slabbing
✔ Patios ✔ Decking ✔ Turfing etc
All aspects of gardening work undertaken
0121 5054101
07506 553411

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES
*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation
24/7 365 emergency callout service
01384 213644 or 07733 226568
Age concern & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified, Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

PATS GARDENING SERVICES
All Gardening Work Undertaken
Tree Felling / Pruning
Garden Management
Fence Erection
Rubbish Removal
No Job Too Small : FREE Quotes
Phone Pat day or night on...
TEL: 0795 041 2361

RJL TREE & GARDEN SERVICES
- Trees carefully pruned
- Specialist in maintenance free gardens

15% OFF
• Trimming • Felling • Turfing • Pollarding
• Patios/Slabbing • Block-paving specialists
• Drives • Patios • Paths Building work undertaken • Tarmacing - Red or Black
Professional quality work at competitive prices
All work undertaken
CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
0121 572 9340 or 07526 164576

GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE
LAWNS AND HEDGE CUTTING
REGULAR RELIABLE SERVICE
FREE QUOTES
EST 15 YEARS
CALL KEITH
0121 532 1143
07872 992732

Dal's Gardening & Tree Services
- A Good reliable service,
- A Name you can trust
- All areas covered

So don't delay phone today for a FREE quotation
07407 622855

Local Specialists

Garage Doors

GARAGE DOOR Traders
- Low cost repairs
- Selection of new doors
- Free survey & quotation
- 18 years experience

07762119948

Garage Doors

L M S GARAGE DOORS
All types of doors supplied and fitted
Fast low cost , same day repairs
For a free survey and quote call
0121 559 0455
07592 118707

Flooring

S & J FLOORING
We even fit your own flooring

- Supply and fit of laminate and real wood flooring
- Vinyls fitted
- Underfloor Heating
- Samples straight to your door
- Ceramic tiling (floor and wall)
- Carpentry (doors, skirting boards, flat pack furniture, etc)

Any job considered - small or large
07908 466629

Fencing

T & D FENCING
LOW PRICES!
HIGH QUALITY FENCING PANELS, CLOSEBOARD PANELS AND GATES SUPPLIED ONLY OR SUPPLIED AND FITTED
OPEN TILL 1.00PM ON SATURDAYS
SUPPLIERS OF WOOD AND CONCRETE POSTS, GRAVEL BOARDS, TRELLIS
PLASTIC SLOTTED POSTS AND PLASTIC GRAVEL BOARDS AVAILABLE
FREE ESTIMATES - TRADE WELCOME
EST 1985 UNIT 405, SMETHWICK ENTERPRISE CENTRE, THE OLD FIRE STATION, ROLFE STREET, SMETHWICK EST 1985
www.TandDfencing.co.uk
0121-565 4533

FIRST FENCE
Over 15 Years Experience.
10 Bays for £495
Prices Start From £60 A Bay Including Heavy Duty Fence Panel, Concrete Post, Gravel Board & Fitting.
Sheds Now Available!
Free Anti Theft Brackets used on all orders
Fencing Panels Now In Stock! From £14
Gardening Services & Shed Re-felts Also Undertaken.
Free Quotes- All Written Quotes Beaten!!
01384 834197
07927 014217

Fencing

NAJRAN DIRECT
Building & Fencing Supplies

Heavy Duty Lap Panels

6x6	£17.00
6x5	£16.00
6x4	£14.50
6x3	£13.50

Gravel Boards Patt/Plain £7.95 Cement £2.99 • Slabs from £1.85

F/edge Panels

6x6	£25.00
6x5	£23.00
6x4	£19.50
6x3	£18.00

SUMMER OFFER
Huge Range of Sheds
Available at all sizes
"Won't be beaten on price"

Decorative Slates Bulk Bags

Cotswold	£55
Golden Gravel	£70
Slate	£85
20ml Gravel	£45

Bulk Bags

Ballast	£30.00
B Sand	£30.00
S Sand	£30.00

Sleepers, Compost and Bottled Gas Also Available
Tat Bank Road, Oldbury B69 4LA
Telephone: 0121 544 4286 Mobile: 07738 362501
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK Quote ref: SWCHRON

Foot Health Practitioner

Foot Care In The Comfort Of Your Own Home
Professional treatment by a qualified practitioner
- Toenail Cutting, Including Ingrown & Thickened
- Relief from painful Corns, Callus, Cracked Heels,
- Verrucas
- Treatment and footcare advice for Diabetic clients

Neet Feet
Jayne Osbourn SAC Dip FHPT/FHPP
07971 765624
10% discount on first visit on production of this advert

Landscapers

CARDINAL LANDSCAPES
West Midlands
Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping
Call now for a FREE QUOTE
01902 562600 or 07539 887144

Loft Ladders

LOFT SERVICES
- Loft Ladders supplied & fitted from £99
- New or enlarged loft access
- Loft Flooring fitted
- Loft Insulation

UPVC drop down hatch with easy stow aluminium ladder £185 fully fitted
For advice call Carl on 0121 556 1761
Mobile: 07502 103997
14 years' experience

Locksmiths

LockRite
Local Locksmith & Security Services
Yale BSI Chubb ERA
- Lock-outs, Lost Keys, Broken Locks
- Emergency lock & door opening
- uPVC specialist
- Key Cutting on site
- British Standard insurance approved locks used - Bs3621
- Double Glazing Unit Repairs

24 HOUR
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
CHECKED
Call Now 0121 564 0049

To advertise your business and reach more than 69,000 potential customers...
1 Call us on... 01902 319577
2 E-mail us at... sonu.bennings@expressandstar.co.uk
3 Post to... Sonu Bennings, Sandwell Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

Local Specialists

Locksmiths

Black Country Locksmiths

Over 40 years experience securing your property

0121 6959851

Experts at opening and replacing multipoint locking systems

Euro cylinders upgraded to **BS Kite marked** to meet your insurance requirements

24/7 Emergency service for lock outs, lock changes and securing property
Oak Road B70

Locksmith Services (24 hours)
Call 07877 941019 0121 556 9270
Locks Opened and Replaced
Mortice & Cylinder Locks
UPVC Door Repairs
Fully Experienced Locksmith
Birmingham & Black Country Covered
All Work Fully Guaranteed

Plastering

C.A. Plastering
For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering
No job too small Quality rendering and terrolining.
07538 718264

JP PLASTERING
A local friendly and reliable family business
Call for a FREE quote
07983 398467 0121 580 0685

Plumbing & Heating

MCP PLUMBING & HEATING
All Plumbing, Gas and Central Heating
Work Undertaken
Servicing and Repairs
Bathroom and Kitchen Installation
07852 150057
safe REGISTERED 221874

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
iphe
All installations and repairs
Supply and fit or fit only
EST 1994
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-601 6767
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Plumbing & Heating
• Bathrooms fitted • Tiling • Electrics
• Heating systems • Boiler repairs
Small or large jobs undertaken
FULLY INSURED
Tel: 07470 010012

Roofing

SMITHS PROFESSIONAL ROOFING SPECIALIST
Over 30 Years' Experience
Reliable, small family business
REDUCED RATES OAPs
FREE ESTIMATES
All work backed by written guarantee
Roof sealing. Save the cost of a new roof, have it sealed. Pointing, Guttering, Flat Roofing, Chimneys, Slates and Tiles
Tel: 0121-555 6542
WOODLANDS STREET SMETHWICK

ALL WEATHER ROOFING
Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding
FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE
Over 30 years experience
0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Mobile Number: **07947 839451**

A1 Little Job Man
(Part of the Imperial Residential Group)
Over 35 years experience
• Fast Roof Repairs • Felt Work & Guttering
• New Roofs Chimneys & Valleys
• uPVC Fascias & Guttering FREE Quotes
• All Building Work Undertaken
• All Work Guaranteed • All Areas Covered
FMB
0121 553 3020

Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Rubbish Removal

ALWAYS V.S.K. RUBBISH REMOVAL
Household Waste, Shed & Garage Clearance
House & Garden Clearance
Tree Felling,
Also Conifers Lopped
0121-532 2392
FREE QUOTES
West Bromwich

ROB'S RUBBISH
EST. OVER 20 YEARS
A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 7 DAYS
Small Jobs
NO PROBLEM
We load, No Skips
Free Estimates
Garden, Household, Shed, Garage, Fridges, White Goods, House Clearances
0121 5006033
07938 207122

Window Cleaning Services

FOR A CLEAN FRESH LOOK
BLOCK PAVING, CONCRETE, TARMAC & PATIOS CLEANED
• WINDOW CLEANING
• PURE WATER POLE SYSTEM
• GUTTER VACUUMING POLE SYSTEM
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
Dave Smith on ***07791 095 052***

Skip Hire

RUSSELL'S SKIPS
MINI/MIDI SKIPS
(0121) 520 3388
07721 387990

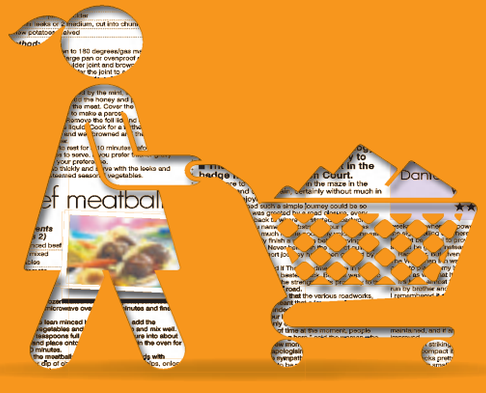
Specialists

BROMLEY CARPETS™ Est. 1963

- Carpet, Vinyl & Laminate Floorlaying Specialists
- Massive range of samples straight to your door
- Choose At Home Service
- Bromley Carpets promise not to overcharge you for carpet or flooring
- And will not rip you off with hidden charges for extra services like moving furniture and removing old carpets and waste
- FREE No Obligation Estimates and Surveys
- Unfortunately, due to overwhelming demand for carpet fitting, laminate flooring and contract work, we are unable to offer a dedicated carpet and upholstery cleaning service at this time.

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
Established over 40 Years
Call Andy or Tommy Bromley on 0121-525 8870 or 07956 308581
Bromley Carpets is a Trade Mark Registered Company
BEWARE OF IMMITATIONS

Local Specialists



SHOPPERS CHECK OUT LOCAL ADVERTISING

41% of people decide where to shop as a result of seeing advertising in local media - ahead of supermarket promotions (25%), direct mail (21%) and TV advertising (19%)

SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

To find out more about advertising in the Express & Star call 01902 31 31 31

Express & Star

Visa hold-up delays Gamboa's debut

Football

ALBION are facing a further delay before handing Cristian Gamboa his debut as they turned their attentions to attacking reinforcements.

The Baggies won their work permit battle over the player on Tuesday and he completed his signing from Norwegian club Rosenborg for £2m.

Gamboa will wear the No.16 shirt. But the 24-year-old, who has penned a three-year deal, must now wait for his visa to be processed before linking up with his team-mates.

Albion faced a wait of more than two weeks for record £10m signing Brown Ideye to be issued with a visa but are confident Gamboa's paperwork will be dealt with more quickly.

The Costa Rica international was granted permission to move to the Premier League after appearing in front of an FA panel this week and winning a work permit appeal.

Head coach Alan Irvine said: "Cristian is a player I was extremely impressed by during the World Cup.

"We faced stiff competition from other Premier League clubs for his services but we've managed to convince Cristian that West Bromwich Albion is the best club for him to join.

"Cristian is a quick, aggressive defender with good energy levels. He gets up and down the pitch really well and we believe he will continue to improve."

Gamboa can operate as a full-back, wing-back or wide midfielder.

He completes the Baggies' defensive rebuilding and Irvine and technical director Terry Burton will now focus on adding another striker and a wideman to their squad.

They have already smashed the club transfer record to sign Ideye from Dynamo Kiev and the Nigeria international will join his team-mates later this week after resolving issues with his visa on Monday and starting his journey to England yesterday.

The Baggies have seen potential striking target Haris Seferovic sign for German club Eintracht Frankfurt and have cooled their interest in French winger Jonathan Biabiany. They considered a bid for the wideman after watching him last season but have received less encouraging scouting reports.

Firsts' run of good results continues

Warwick & Worcester Premier Division 1
The George 251
NIFO 152

THE first team's run of good form continued with a 99 shot victory against NIFO.

The George led by 43 shots after the first four with wins by Jamie Dunn (21-8), Elliot McGuinness (21-13), Phil Clinton and Mick McGuinness (both 21-10).

The middle four proved too strong for NIFO with Pete Davenport (21-9), Paul Hemming (21-13), Ivan Smout (21-16) and Shane Day (21-17) increasing the lead to 72 shots.

The back four completed a comfortable victory with Steve Dicken (21-4), Darling (21-11) and Mark Street 21-20) all winning.

South Staffs Premier Div
Nordley B 196
The George 212

The second team's 16-shot away win at Nordley has almost certainly guaranteed their survival in the top division. Steve Fagan (21-8) and Keith Walton (21-9) did the damage for The George.

Warwick & Worcester Alliance Division 2
The George 251
Ye Olde Knowle 143

The third team had a big 108 shot home win.

Novak on target as Blues see off Cally

STRIKER Lee Novak is hoping Blues continue their impressive pre-season form into the new Championship season.

Lee Clark's side, who begin with a trip to Middlesbrough on Saturday, finished their friendlies with a 3-1 success over Inverness Caledonian Thistle at St Andrew's.

"It was a good team performance, we wanted to get the win and end a good pre-season." said Novak.

"It's been a long pre-season. It's been tough but it's all been working towards Middlesbrough and we want to put on a performance."

Novak opened the scoring in the eighth minute when he curled a delightful shot beyond Dean Brill.

He then helped set up Demarai Gray for the second as the youngster raced away from two defenders before firing home from a tight angle.

Gary Warren pulled one back for the visitors and had another effort cleared off the line by Paul Caddis.

But it was Caddis who wrapped up the win when he fired home from the penalty spot in the last minute after Clayton Donaldson was brought down by Warren.

Plenty of questions left for boss Irvine

Nottingham 1 Albion 0

LESS than two weeks before the start of the biggest season of his career, Alan Irvine still has more questions than answers.

Saturday's trip to Nottingham reminded Irvine and Albion's fans of many of the things they already knew.

But it rarely told them anything they didn't. The Baggies' unusual starting line-up reinforced the need for new faces out wide and in attack, with Graham Dorrans and Craig Gardner marginalised on the flanks and Saido Berahino ill-suited to a lone striker's role.

Football

The sight of Joleon Lescott limping off just 35 minutes into his 'public debut' underlined the brewing injury crisis at centre-back.

And the requirement for Andre Wisdom and Sebastien Pocognoli to play most of the game exposed the continued lack of cover at full-back.

But the obvious show of commitment and tactical discipline offered further evidence that the players Irvine does have signed up and fit are buying into his blueprint.

The result mattered little and, with so many men missing from Irvine's squad, it was tough to read much into the Baggies' performance.

So the game became no more than a fitness exercise for the unbalanced side he was forced to select and another frustrating afternoon for those players he could not call on.

Stephane Sessegnon's return from international duty will add a much-needed option out wide, Brown Ideye's delayed arrival will boost the forward line and Cristian Gamboa and Jason Davidson will provide much needed full-back cover if Albion's confidence in getting both signings completed proves well-founded.

But Irvine knows he is running out of time to put his real plans in place.

"It was a disappointing result because we've won all our previous games so we didn't want this to happen, clearly," said Irvine after seeing Matty Fryatt's first-half goal for Forest settle a forgettable game.

"We were trying to find a way of playing, trying to find a team, but we're really stretched at this moment in time.

"Victor Anichebe, who should have started and didn't because of illness, came on and I think made a difference. We had a number of chances and you have to take them. To be fair a couple of them fell to young Kemar Roofe.

"It would have been great for him if he had scored but he didn't manage to finish them off."

Danny Collins of Nottingham Forest and Victor Anichebe of West Bromwich Albion

Late score for Tipton gains point

NEW-LOOK Tipton Town opened their Midland League Premier Division campaign with a 2-2 draw at Loughborough University.

Tipton took the lead when Danny Carey-Bertram kept his cool to finish after being played in by Matt Ellis.

Loughborough pulled back right on half-time when James Smith upended Jason Davis and Kamran Frost levelled from the spot.

Hesitancy in the Tipton penalty area in the 56th minute proved their undoing, Daniel Brennan putting the home side in front from close range.

Three minutes from time Josh March drove home after a free-kick was only partly cleared to earn the visitors a point.

Shan gets promoted to U-21s

ALBION have promoted James Shan to the position of Under-21 Senior Professional Development Phase Coach.

He steps up from his previous role as Under-18 Lead Development Phase Coach to take over the reins from David Oldfield, who left for MK Dons last month.

The 35-year-old has progressed through the club's ranks since moving to The Hawthorns as performance coach/under-11s coach in 2006. And he has helped develop players such as Saido Berahino, Liam O'Neil, George Thorne, Chris Wood and Isaiah Brown. Technical director Terry Burton said: "James was the obvious choice to fill the role. He knows the players well."

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Squad is on track insists Lambert

BOSS Paul Lambert insists Villa are on track for their Premier League opener at Stoke despite a 4-1 defeat at Dutch side Groningen.

Two goals in the opening eight minutes put the hosts in control of the pre-season friendly at the Euroborg stadium.

Attacking midfielder Tjaronn Chery netted both before Jarchinio Antonia made it 3-0 on the half-hour.

Charles N'Zogbia responded with a terrific free-kick for Villa with around 15 minutes to go, but Groningen were not done and Swedish striker Dino Islamovic added their fourth goal in the last few seconds. Lambert, who gave starts to summer signings Kieran Richardson and Philippe Senderos, insists he is not overly concerned about the defeat.

"The result wasn't the most important thing," he said. "It's about getting fitness levels.

"The result is irrelevant. We are still some weeks away from our first game. These matches don't matter results-wise. I have said that from the beginning.

"I have been involved where we have won every single pre-season game and before you know it, you lose your first game. I never read too much into pre-season games."

Jason's move is finalised

ALBION new-boy Jason Davidson believes he can hit the ground running after finally completing his move to The Hawthorns.

The 23-year-old Australia left-back signed for the Baggies onTuesday after the club paid to end his contract dispute with Dutch Heracles Almelo.

And despite having his arrival delayed by almost a month, Davidson insists he will be ready for the start of the Premier League season on August 16.

"As a footballer you have to deal with the cards you're dealt," said Davidson.

"I would have liked this situation to be dealt with earlier but I was at the World Cup so I haven't lost that much fitness so now it's about working hard ... to show the boss what I can do." Davidson played all three games for Australia at the World Cup.

Hutton's single strike wins it for Villa

Walsall 0 Villa 1

Football

ALAN HUTTON'S goal got the win for Villa as Walsall welcomed back Sam Mantom from injury.

The Scot, a one-time member of Paul Lambert's notorious "Bomb Squad" who are now being reintegrated back into the claret and blue squad, hammered home a loose ball just before the half hour mark for the goal which separated the sides.

Villa were the better team and deserved the win despite a tenacious effort from the hosts.

But for Saddlers boss Dean Smith the most pleasing aspect was unquestionably the return of midfielder Mantom after a knee ligament injury which has kept him out of the entire pre-season.

Perhaps the second most pleasing was the performance of the man Mantom replaced on 63 minutes – trialist Billy Clifford. Released by Chelsea earlier in the summer, the 21-year-old did his chances of earning a contract no harm with a display full of incisive passing and strong running.

Just days before the season begins Smith may have found another valuable option.

It was Villa who threatened first. James Chambers did well to block from Gabriel Agbonlahor and then followed up to deny Hutton.

From the corner, keeper Richard O'Donnell was called into action as he saved Ciaran Clark's header and then blocked Hutton on the follow-up.

Kieron Richardson fired a free-kick straight at O'Donnell before the Saddlers had their first effort when Ashley Grimes volleyed over after a fine move which ended with Mal Benning crossing for the forward.

With the match relatively even it was Villa who grabbed the lead just before the half-hour.

Richardson's free-kick from the left was not cleared and after a series of blocked shots, ricochets and failed clearances Hutton forced the ball home from six yards out.

Agbonlahor should have doubled the advantage but headed wide. Villa looked more likely to add to their lead in the closing stages but Leandro Bacuna saw a header hacked off the line by Dean Holden and Gary Gardner fired over from 10 yards out.

DAWSON'S GAFFE SCUPPERS ALBION

Port Vale 3 Albion 2

Football

IT was almost kids to the rescue for Albion at Vale Park.

But Craig Dawson's bizarre late own-goal condemned Alan Irvine's men to a second pre-season defeat in four days.

Academy graduates Kemar Roofe and Bradley Garmston grabbed the goals for the Baggies in the Potteries, only for Dawson's spectacular misjudgement to leave them on the losing side. The youngsters gave 400 travelling Baggies fans some reason to smile despite ongoing worries about the holes in Irvine's squad 10 days before the big Premier League kick-off.

But with time running out to get his first XI drilled, Irvine would have surely preferred his absentees to have made the trip – and his threadbare defence to look a little less ragged.

Injury

Joleon Lescott, Gareth McAuley James Morrison and Sebastien Pocognoli missed out through injury, new-boy Jason Davidson was not risked hours after signing, Brown Ideye had yet to touch down after receiving his visa and Cristian Gamboa was awaiting receipt of his despite winning his work permit appeal.

With Stephane Sessegnon yet to return from international duty, it left Irvine's resources stretched once more.

But at least Walsall winger Roofe and full-back Garmston, a Lichfield lad with a rich sporting pedigree, made the most of their chance.

Roofe, aged 21, opened the scoring while 20-year-old Garmston drew the Baggies level after Ben Williamson and Tom Pope had given the League One side a 2-1 half-time lead.

It took just five minutes for the visitors to break the deadlock. Craig Gardner supplied a clever through ball and, as the hosts awaited an offside flag that never came, Roofe darted in from the right, collected the pass and kept his composure to beat Sam Johnson low down.

Vale drew level on 18 minutes. A cross from Adam Yates was headed back across goal by Ryan Lloyd and forced home by Williamson.

And Vale went ahead on 27 minutes. Michael O'Connor delivered a free-kick from the right and Pope was relatively unchallenged in putting a looping header over Boaz Myhill. Albion were level just four minutes into the second half when Garmston became the second youngster to get his name on the scoresheet. Vale snatched victory with five minutes left as Dawson misjudged Johnson's punt and sent a looping back-header over Myhill.

Pitmen are too strong for Baggies' youngsters

Tom Thorley heads in Hednesford's second goal during the friendly with Albion

Hednesford Town continued their good pre-season campaign with a convincing 2-0 victory over a young West Bromwich Albion XI.

However, nothing should be taken away from the Pitmen with a number of the Albion youngsters on show being highly thought of at The Hawthorns, writes Scott Smith.

The home side started strongly and were ahead after just seven minutes when good work by Alex Melbourne down the right saw him whip in an excellent cross which was turned home by Steve Diggin six yards out. It was almost 2-0 a minute later when Diggin saw his effort strike the post after wriggling clear of the Albion backline.

In the 19th minute Town thought they had doubled their lead only for that man Diggin to see his headed effort ruled out for offside.

Albion's afternoon soon went from bad to worse when striker Danny Barrow was stretchered off with suspected ankle ligament damage.

Any chance of the Baggies forcing their way back in was snuffed out in the 64th minute as Hednesford made it 2-0.

Ashmore once again got down the touchline and his right-wing cross was missed by Diggin but Tom Thorley was on hand at the back post to head home.

Summers' night was knockout

TIPTON'S Ricky Summers saved his best knockout for his big break on TV as opponent Curtis Gargano was counted out in front of the BoxNation cameras.

The two engaged in a slugfest before the finish came, four rounds into a scheduled six, at Wolverhampton Civic Hall last night, writes Craig Birch.

Summers, the only Black Country boy on the bill, was risking a proposed title shot at Dudley's The Venue on September 19 to compete in front of a national audience.

He refused to get drawn into a brawl with Gargano, who replaced Mitch Mitchell for the light-heavyweight contest, and took him out with just 20 seconds of the fourth session left.

A cagey first round saw Summers stay patient behind the jab, as Gargano got on his toes and made himself a moving target.

Summers bided his time waiting for the opportune moment to come when he could crumple up Gargano with a loaded right hook to the ribs, forcing him to take a knee. He made some attempts to rise to his feet but had no real interest in continuing.

Rover Steer is eyeing return

JED STEER is determined to catch the eye at Doncaster Rovers as he looks to a long-term future with Villa.

Steer has joined the League One club on a three-month deal .

But the 21-year-old stopper hopes to challenge experienced colleagues Brad Guzan and Shay Given back at Bodymoor Heath.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, August 7

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